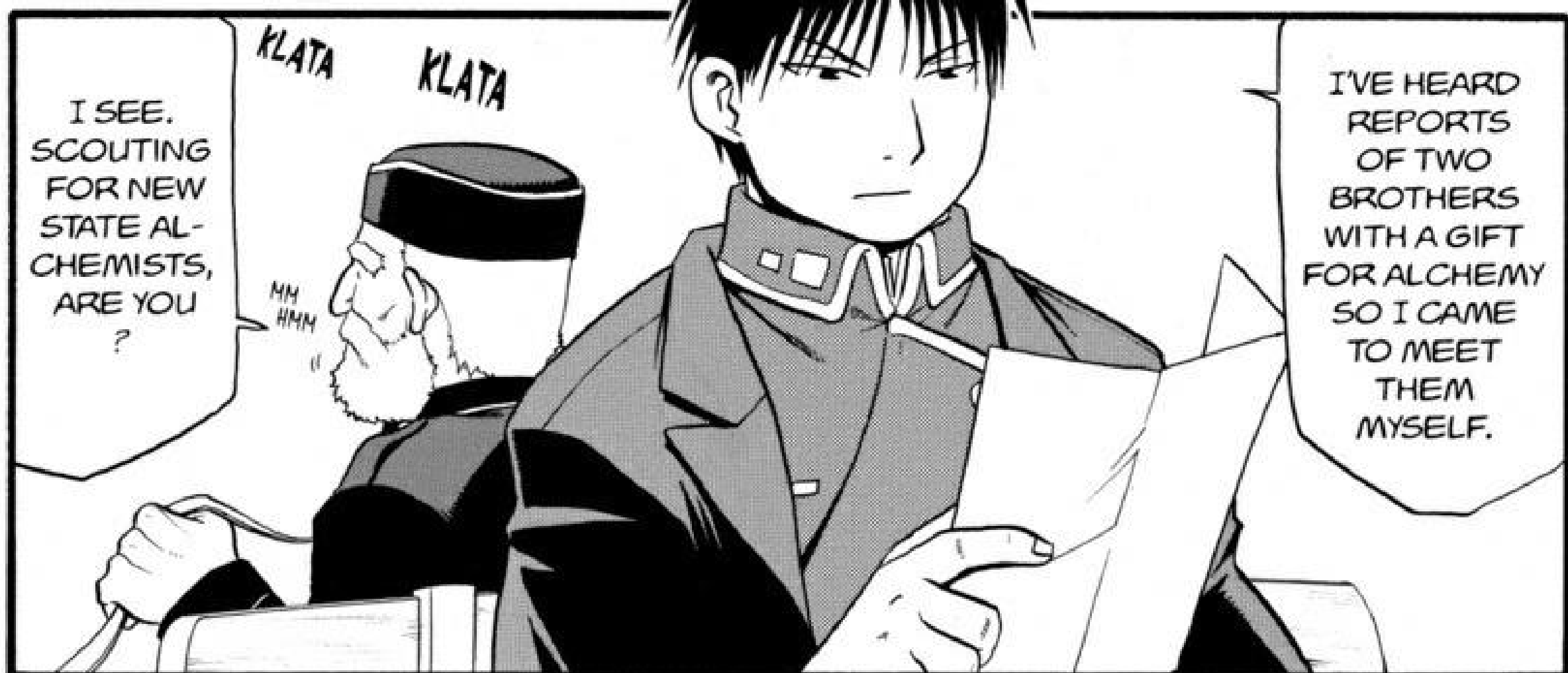
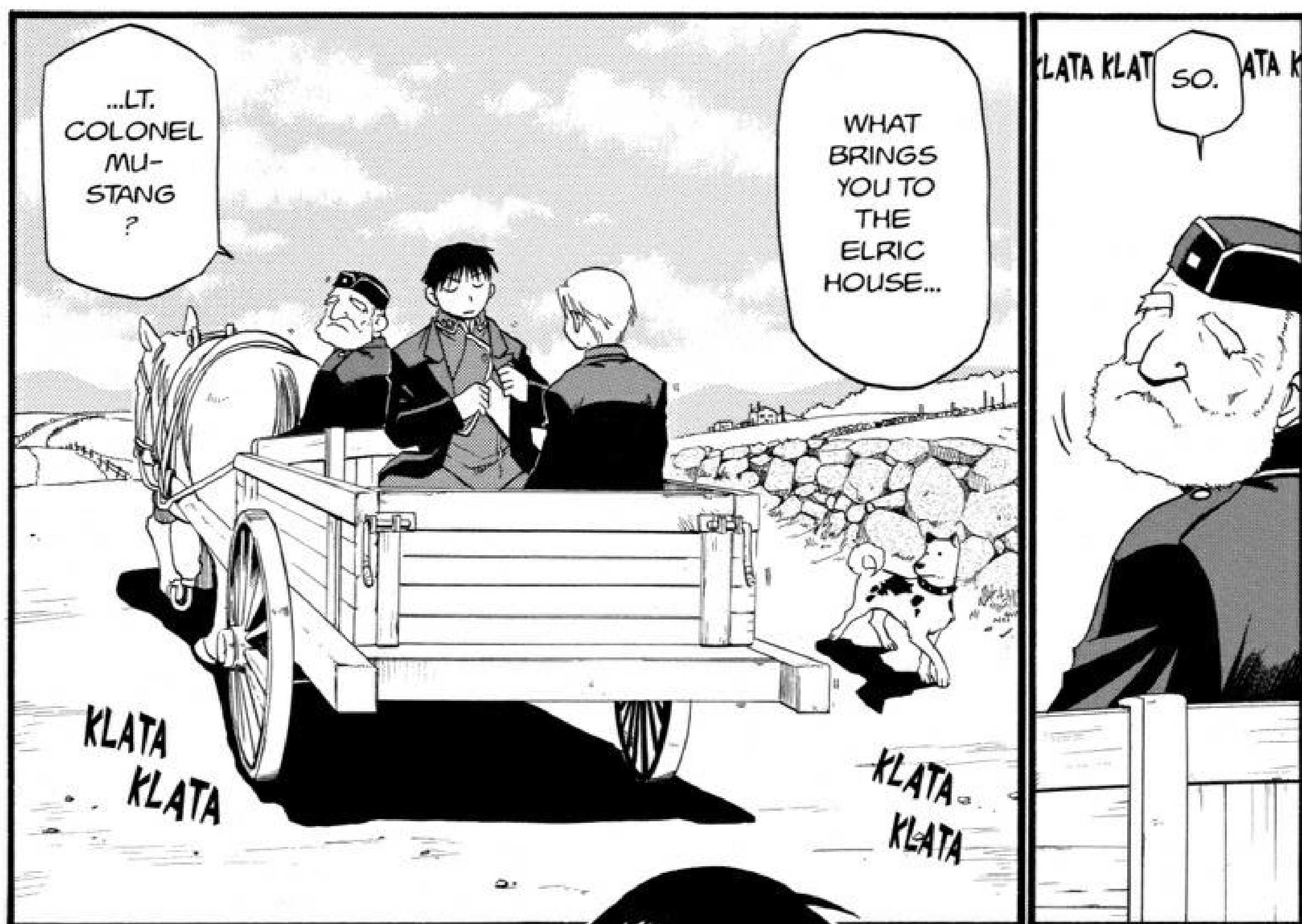
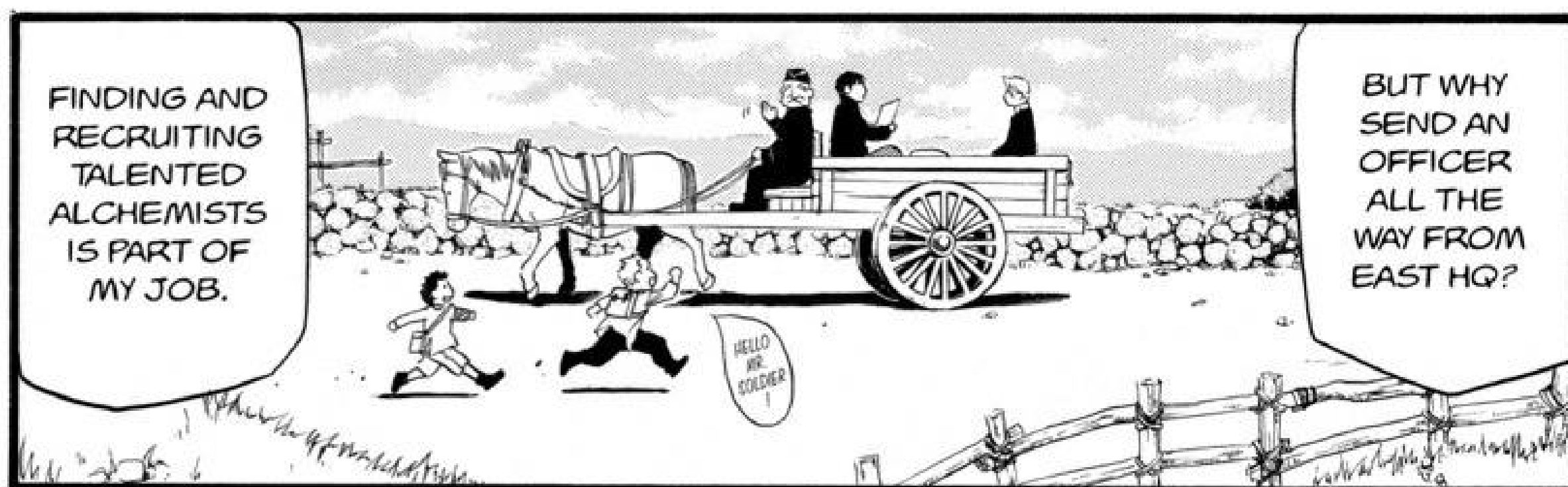
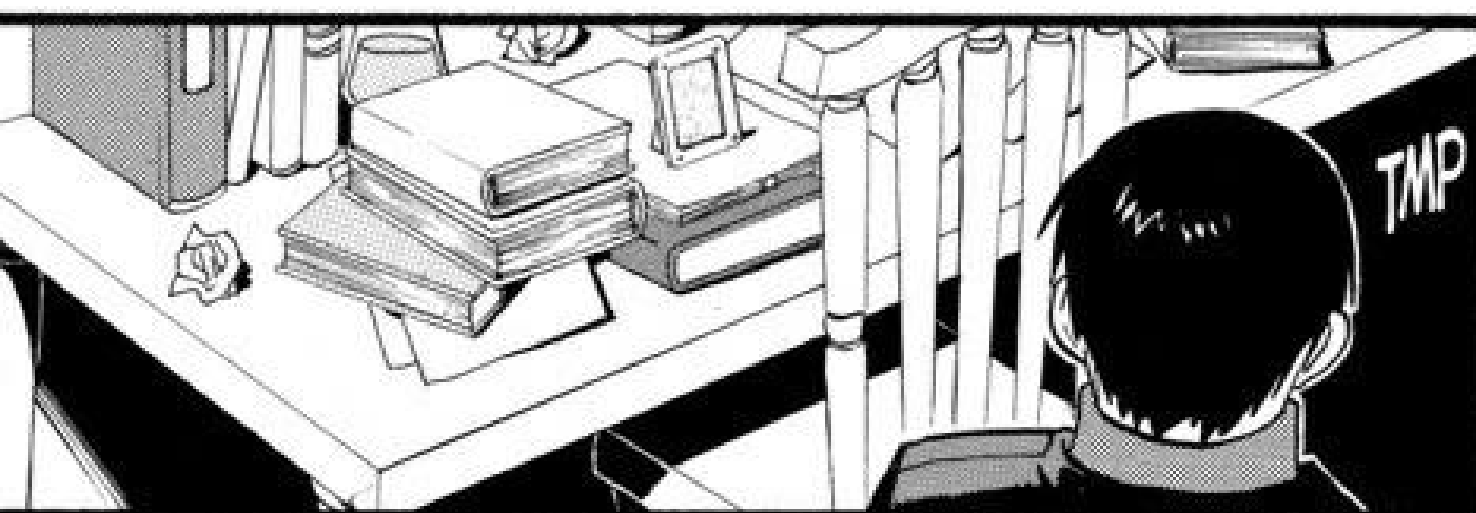
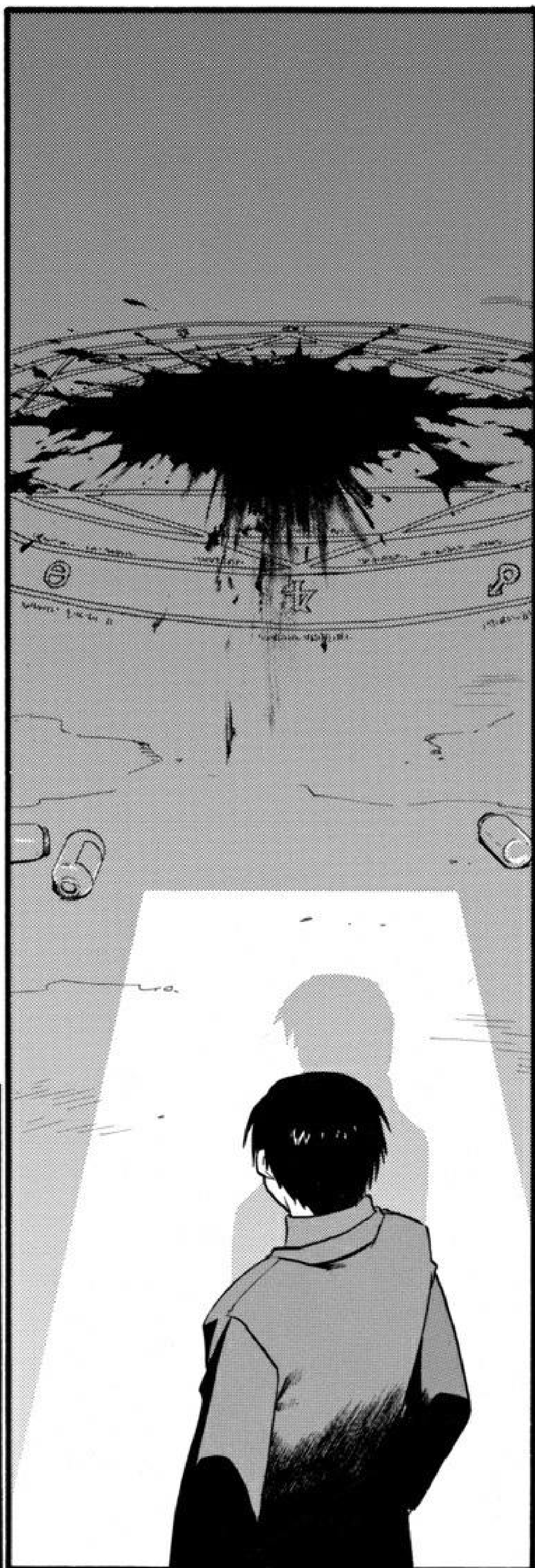




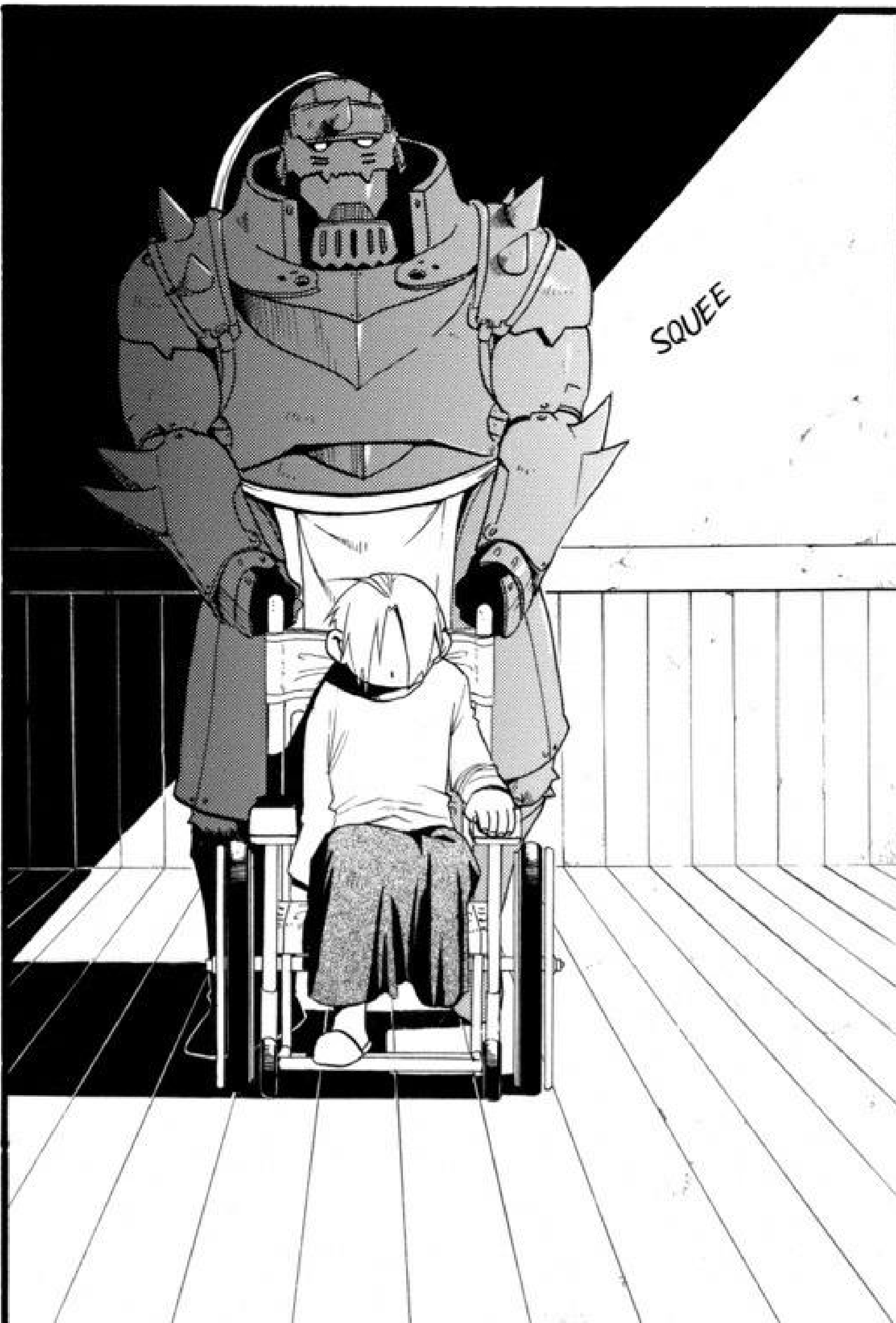




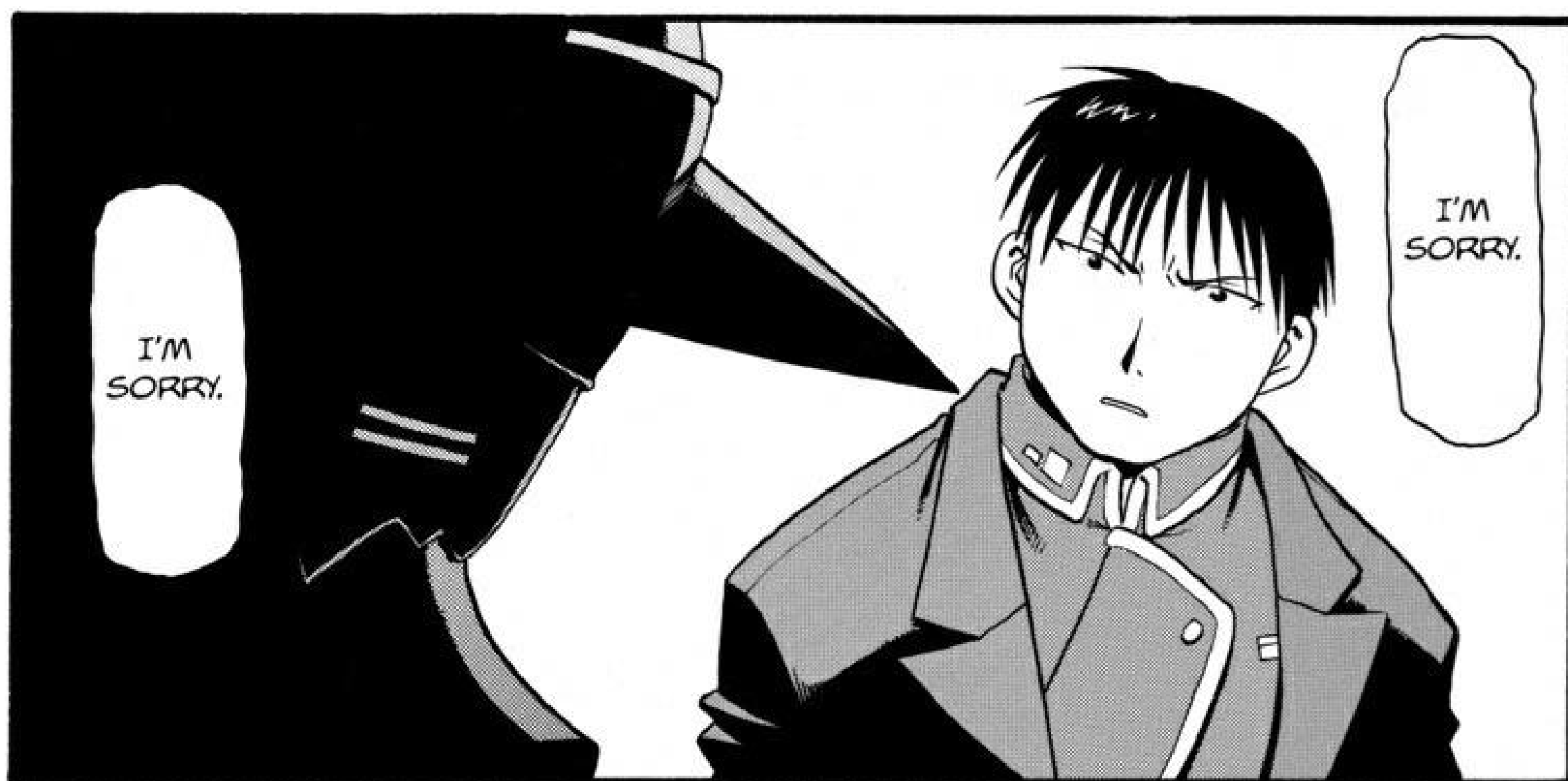
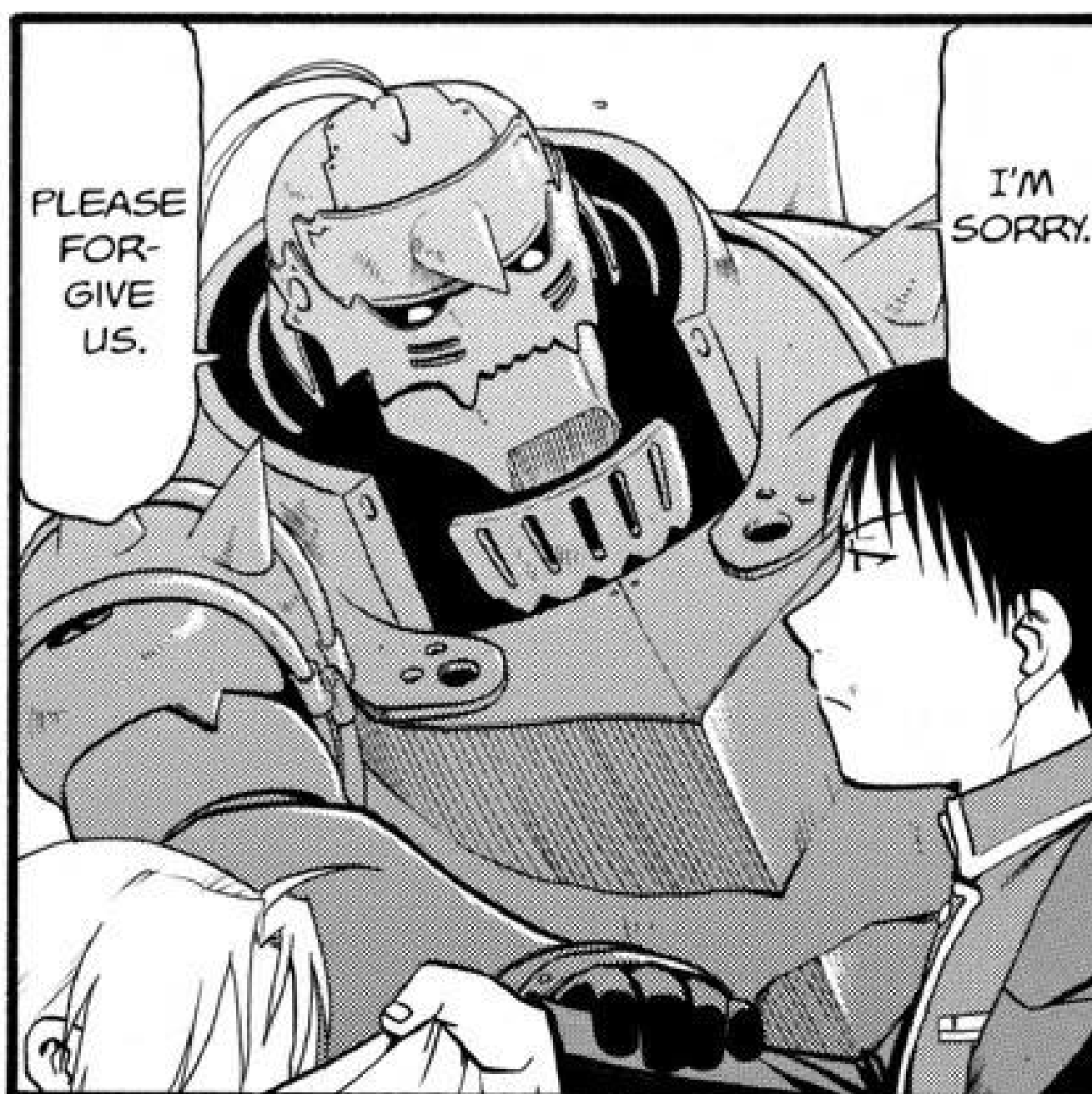
Chapter 24: Fullmetal Alchemist

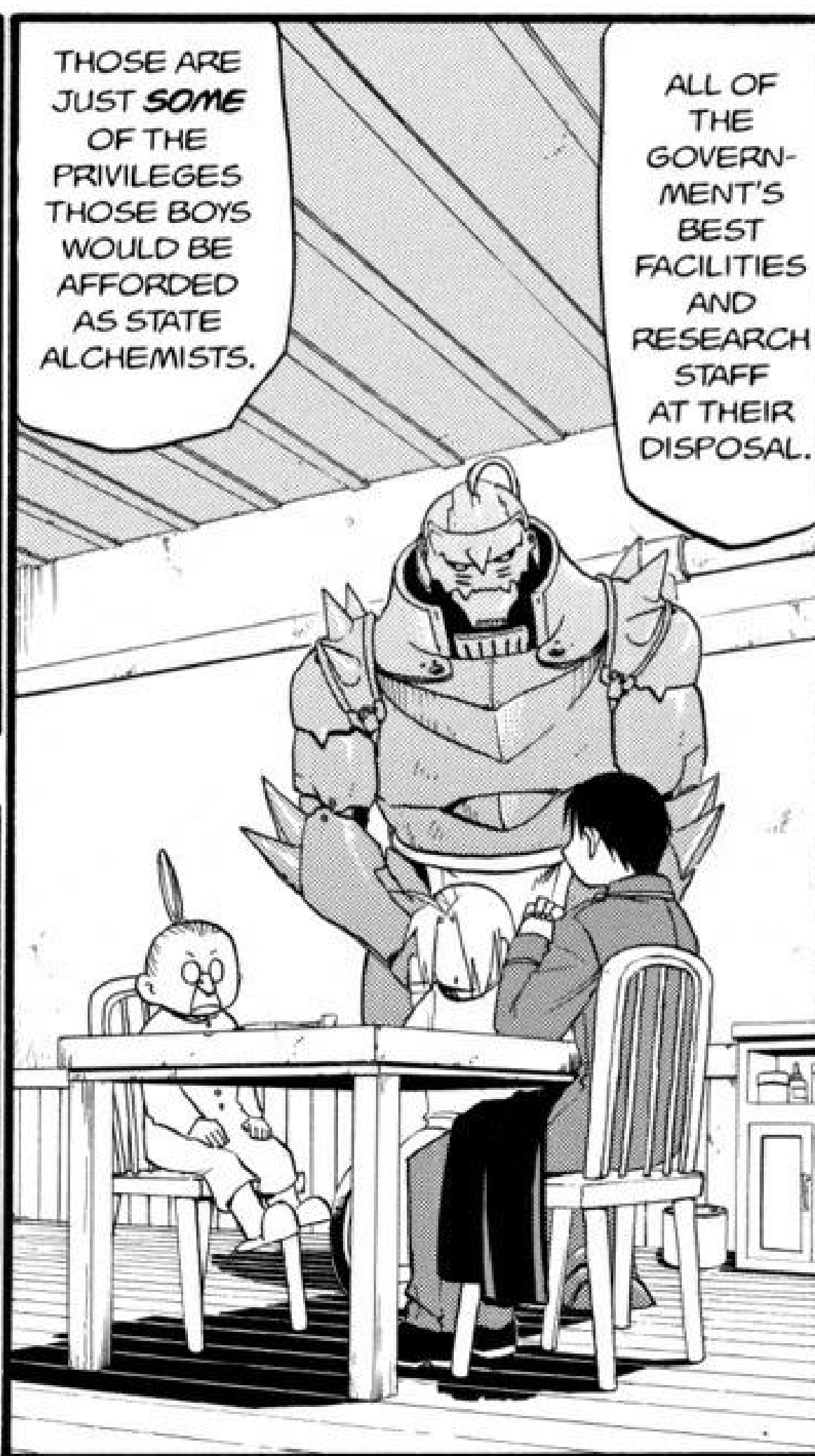
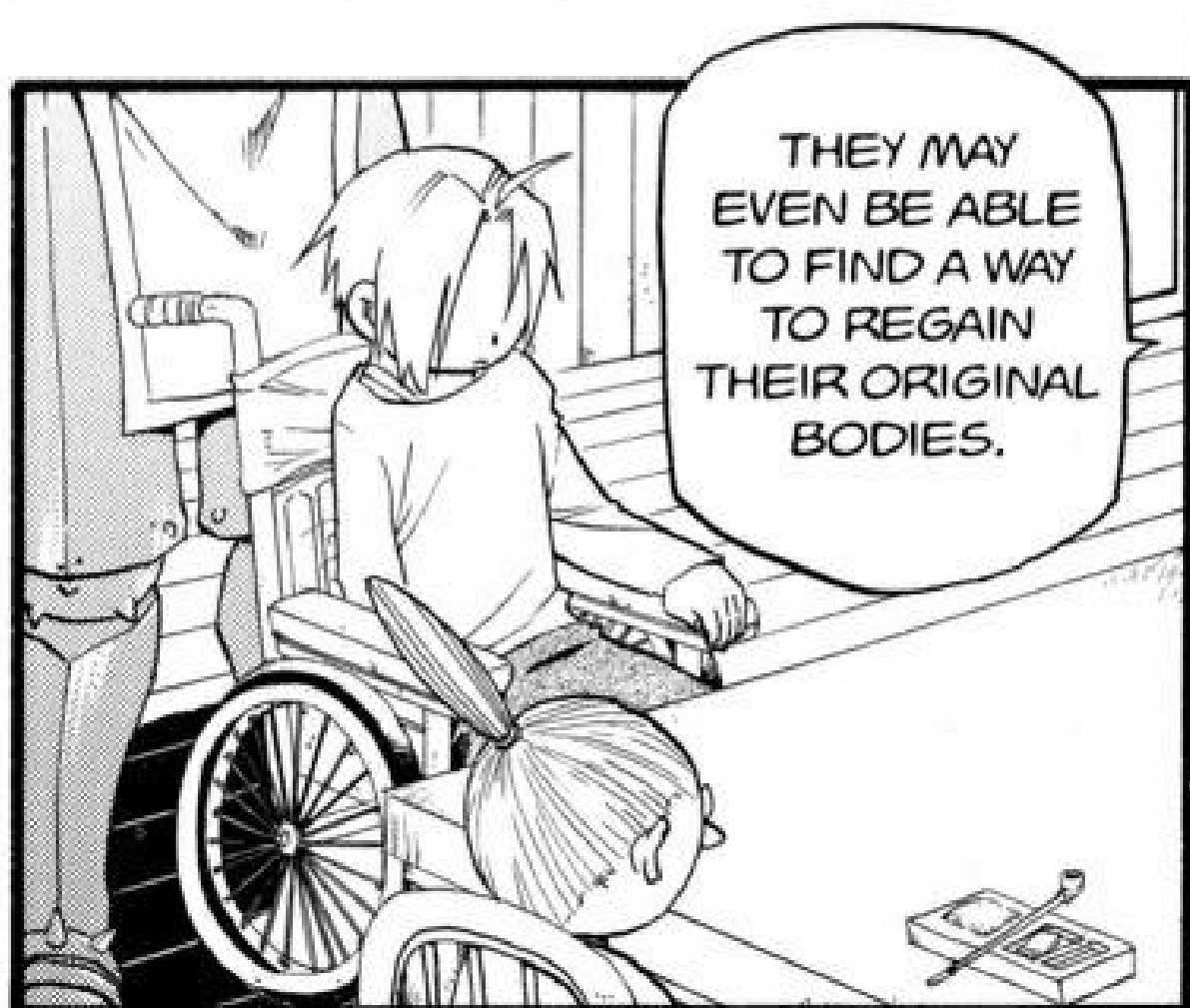


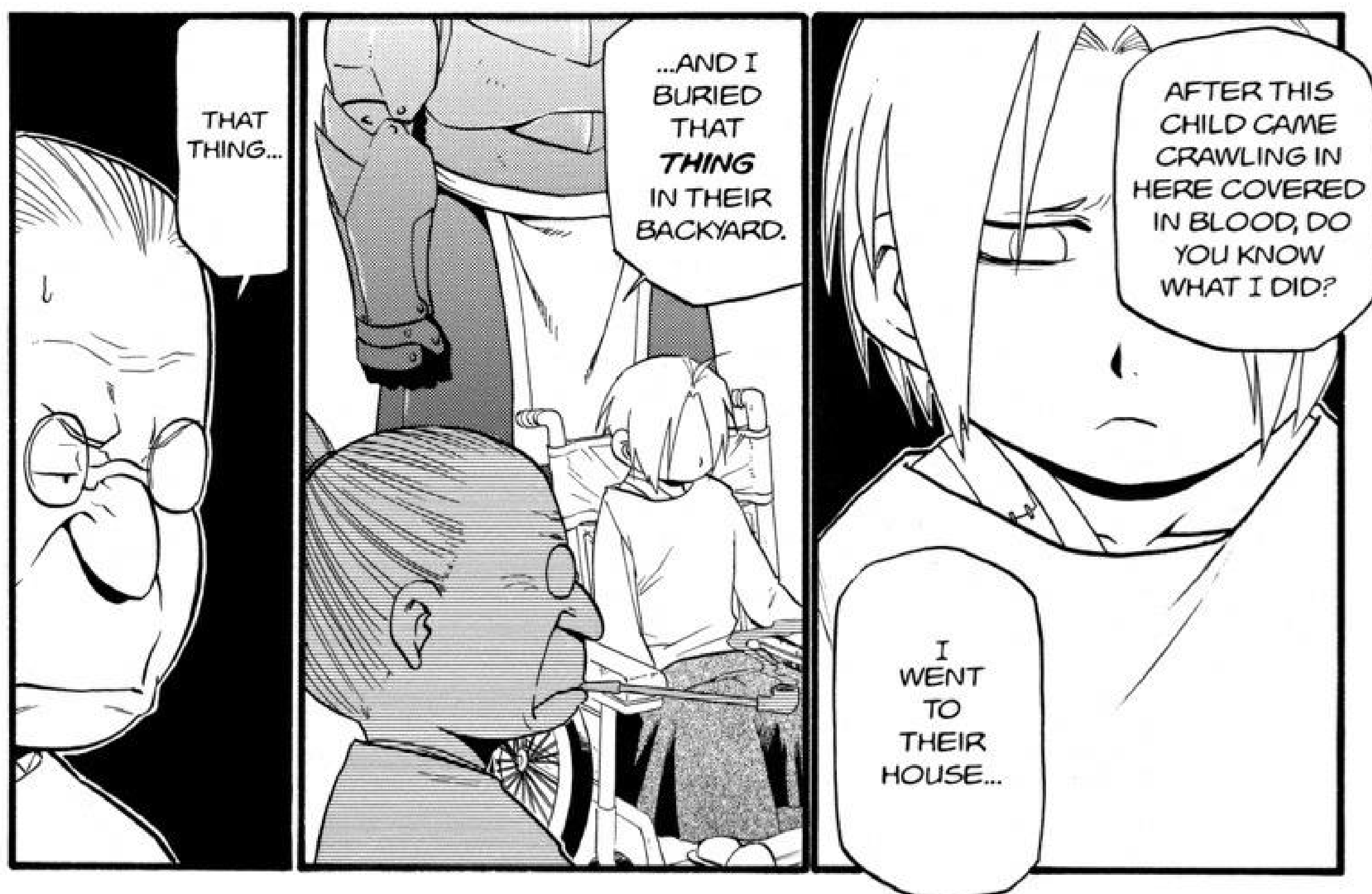


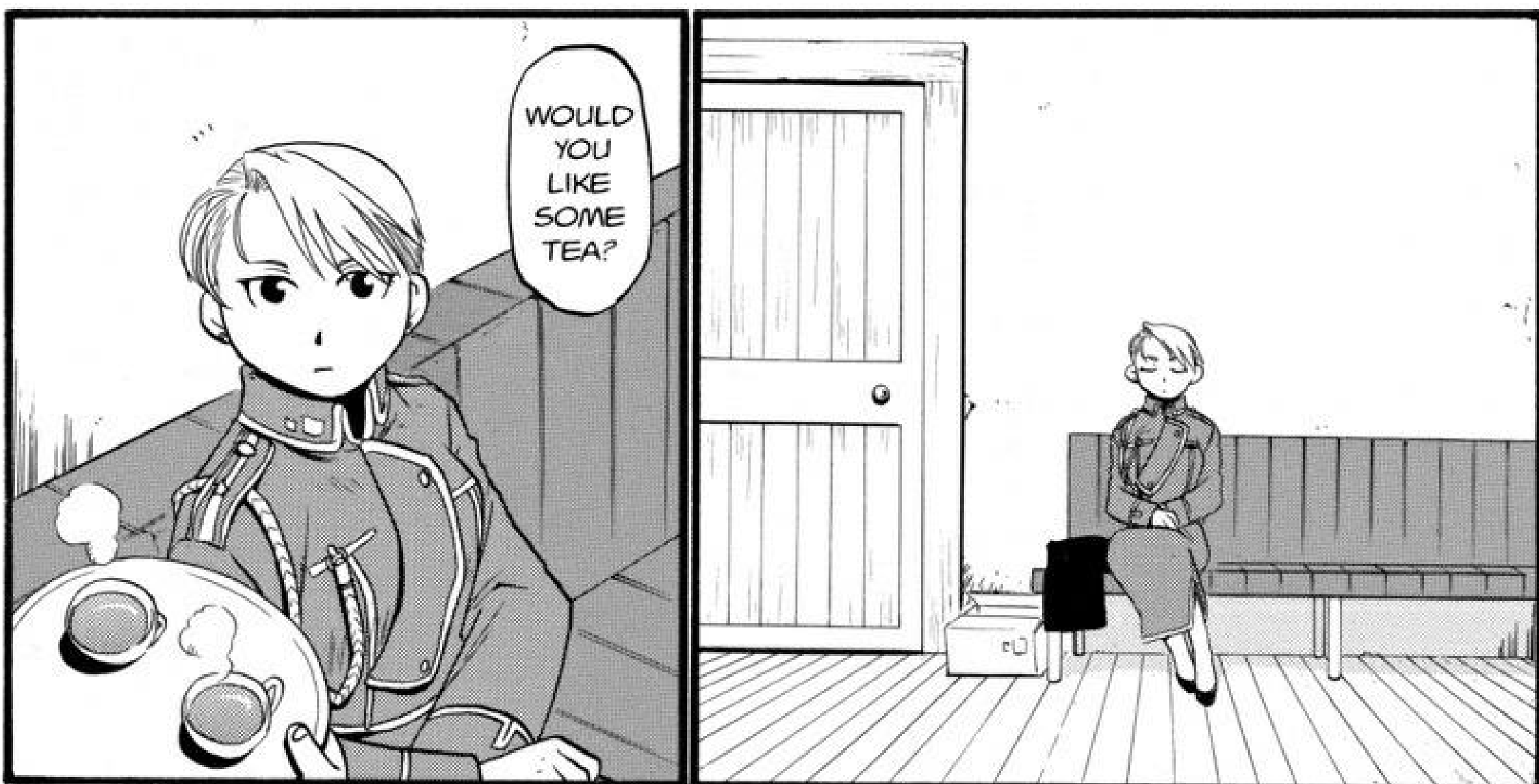
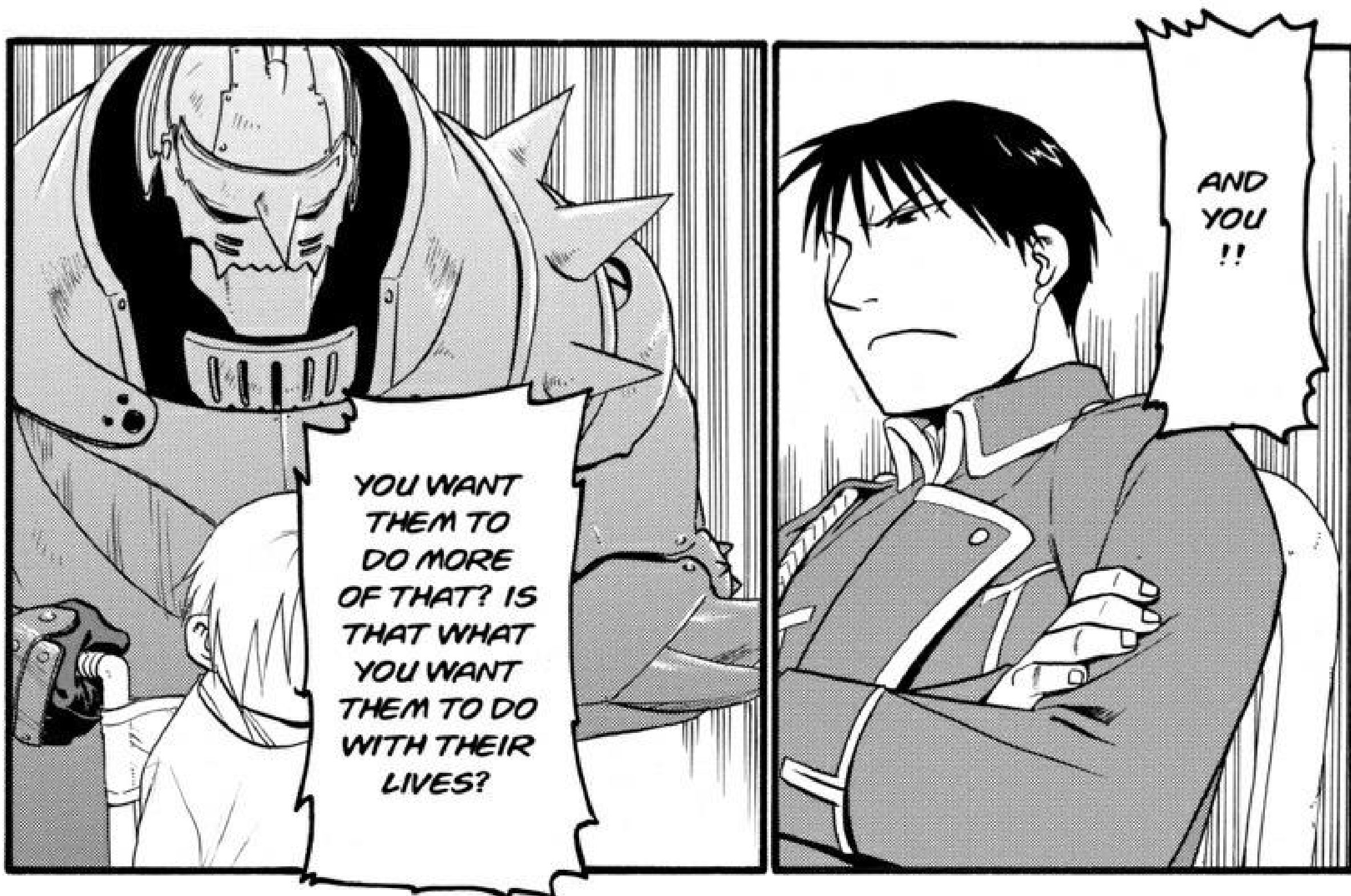


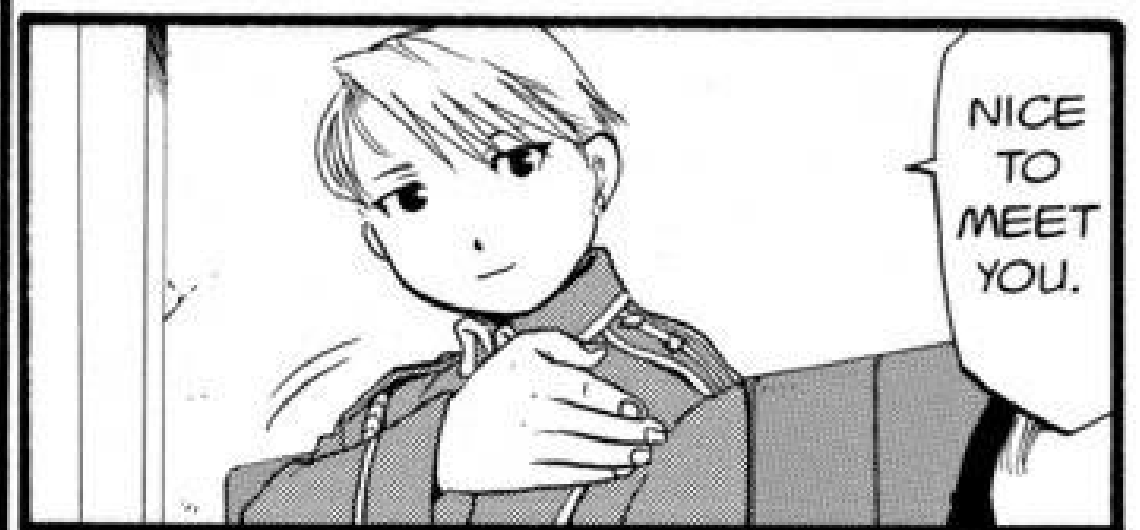
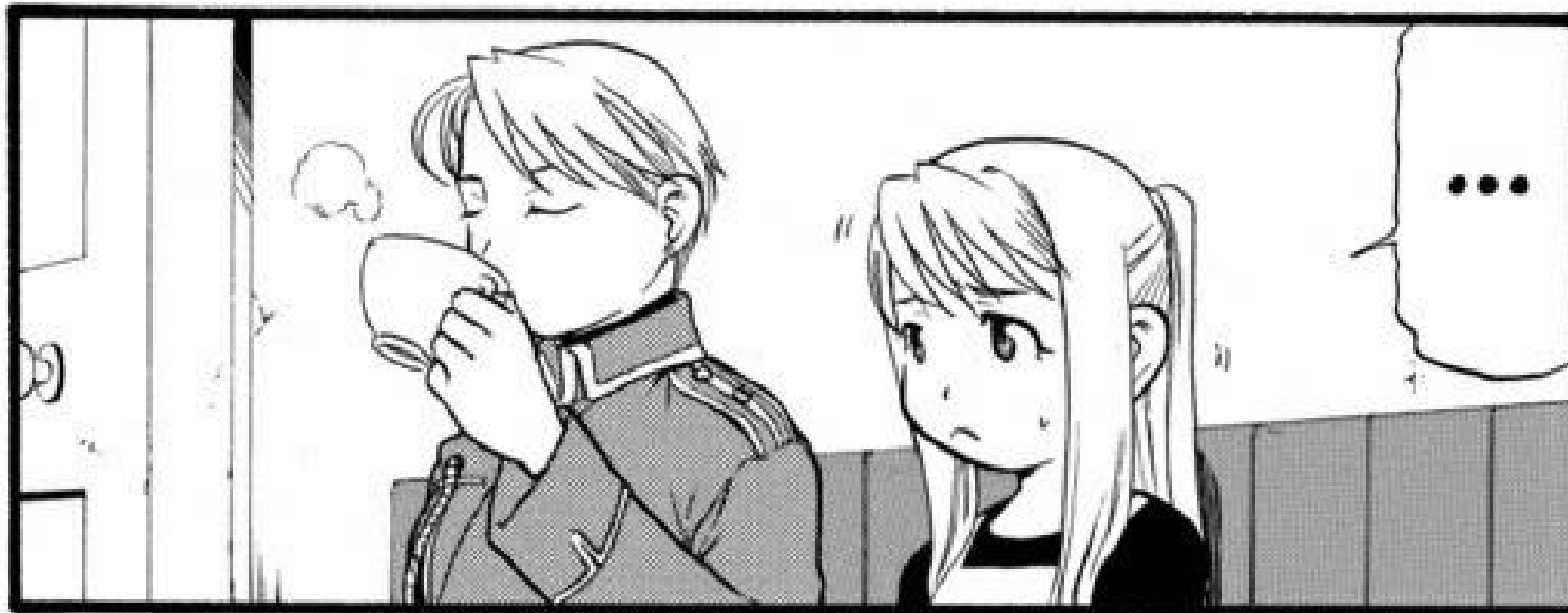
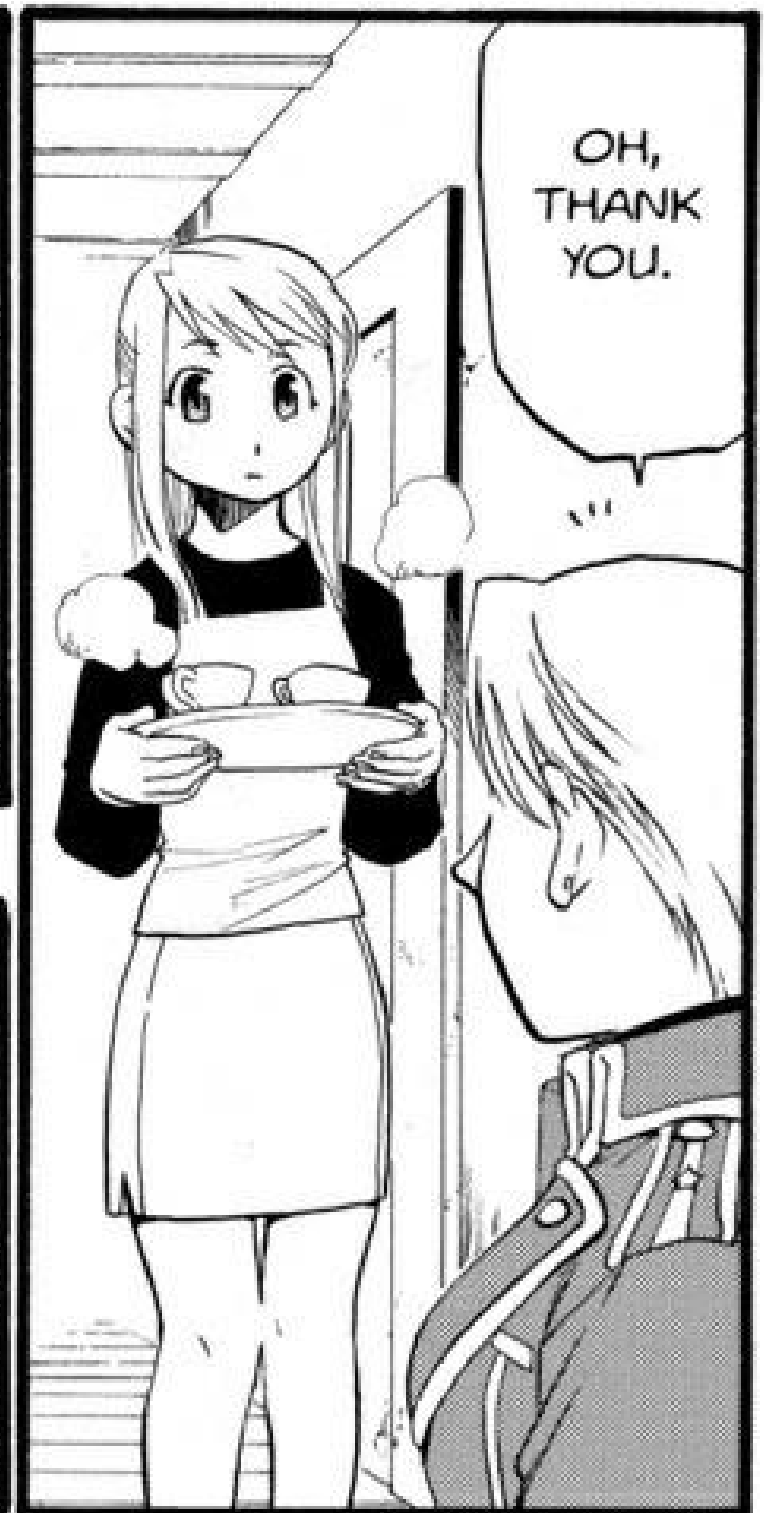
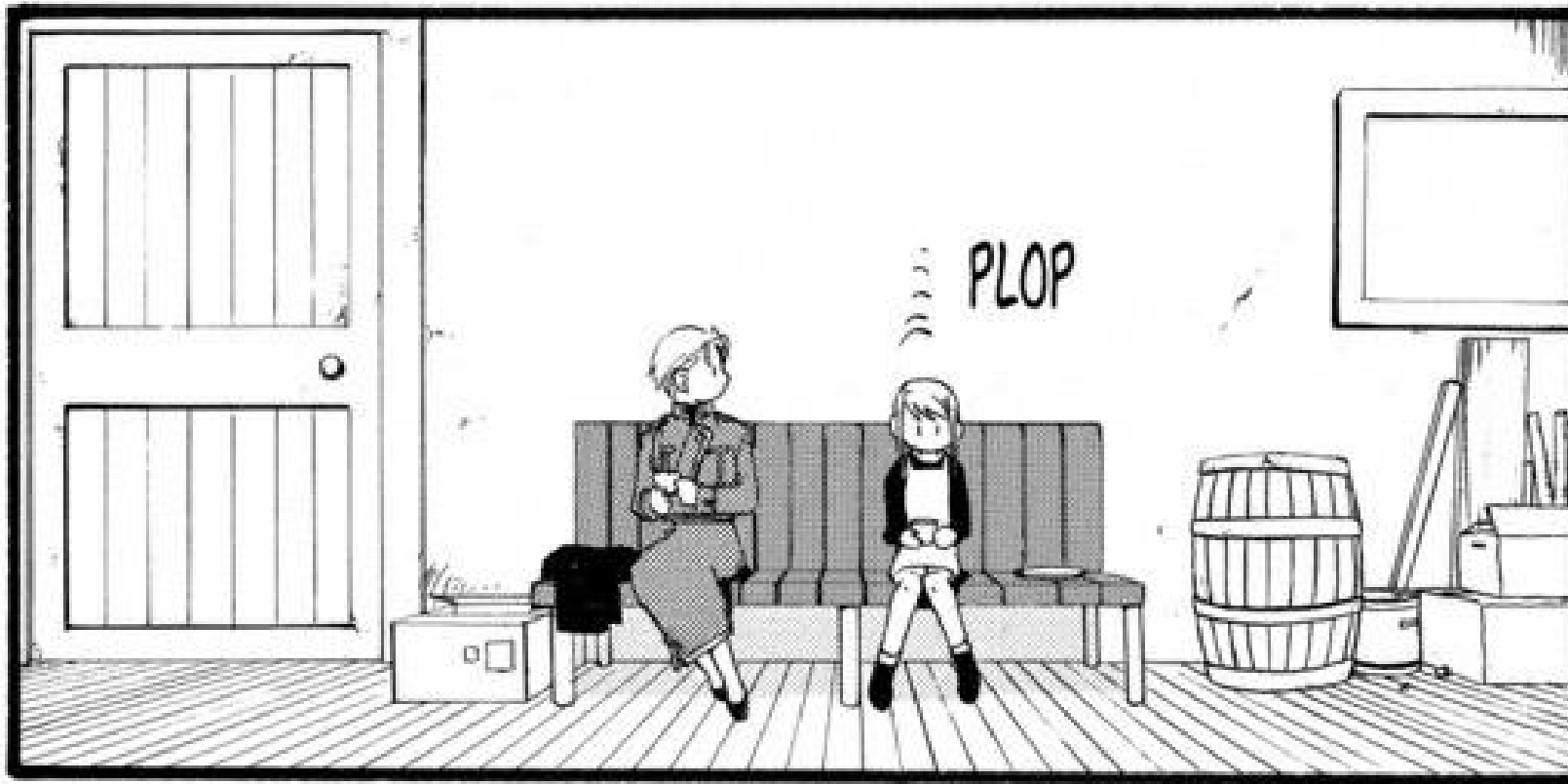


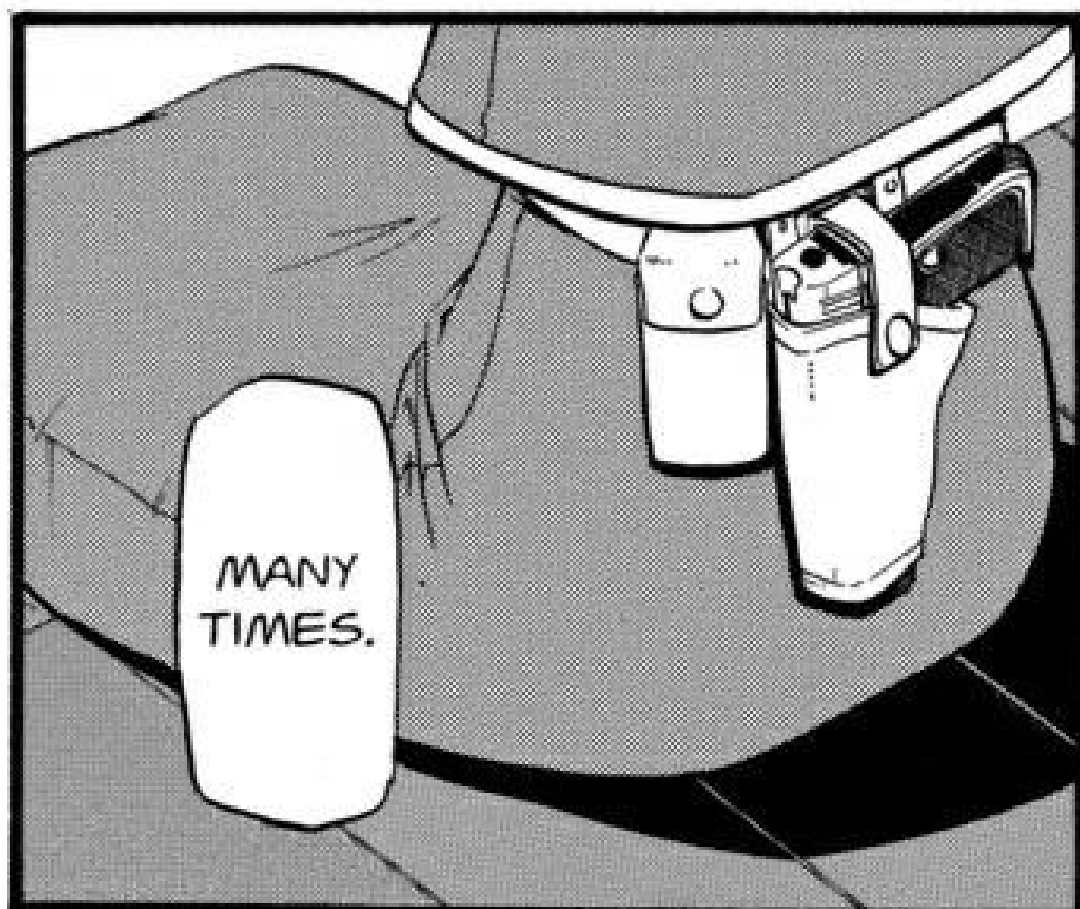












MANY
TIMES.



I
HAVE.



I
DON'T
WANT
THEM TO
BECOME
SOLDIERS...

PLEASE
DON'T
TAKE
THEM
AWAY...

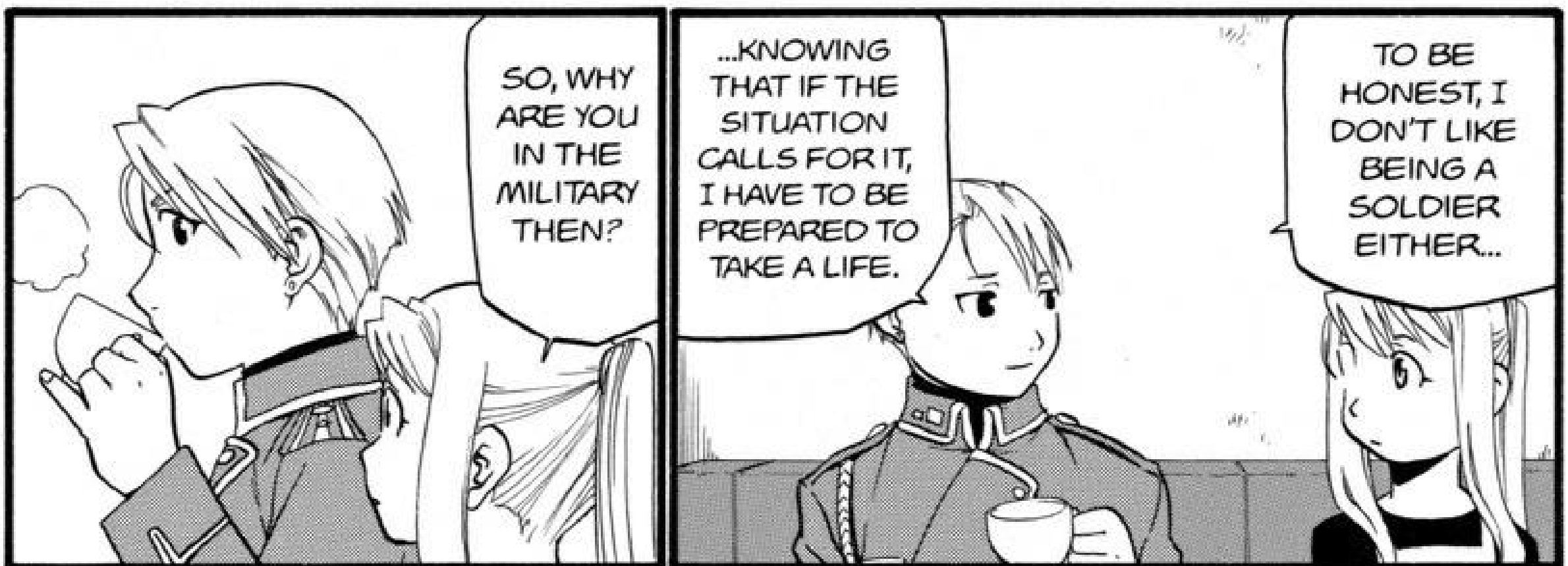


I
DON'T
LIKE
SOL-
DIERS.

MY MOM
AND DAD
GOT KILLED
WHEN
SOLDIERS
TOOK THEM
TO THE
BATTLE-
FIELD.



AND NOW
THAT GUY
NAMED
MUSTANG
IS TRYING
TO TAKE ED
AND AL
AWAY.





IT'S
SOME-
THING
THAT I
DECIDED
FOR
MY-
SELF.

IT'S NOT
SOMETHING
I'M BEING
FORCED
TO DO.



I AM
MERELY
OFFERING
AN
OPPOR-
TUNITY!



...BECAUSE
I NEED
TO KEEP
THAT
PERSON
SAFE.

I PULL
THE
TRIGGER
BY MY
OWN FREE
WILL...



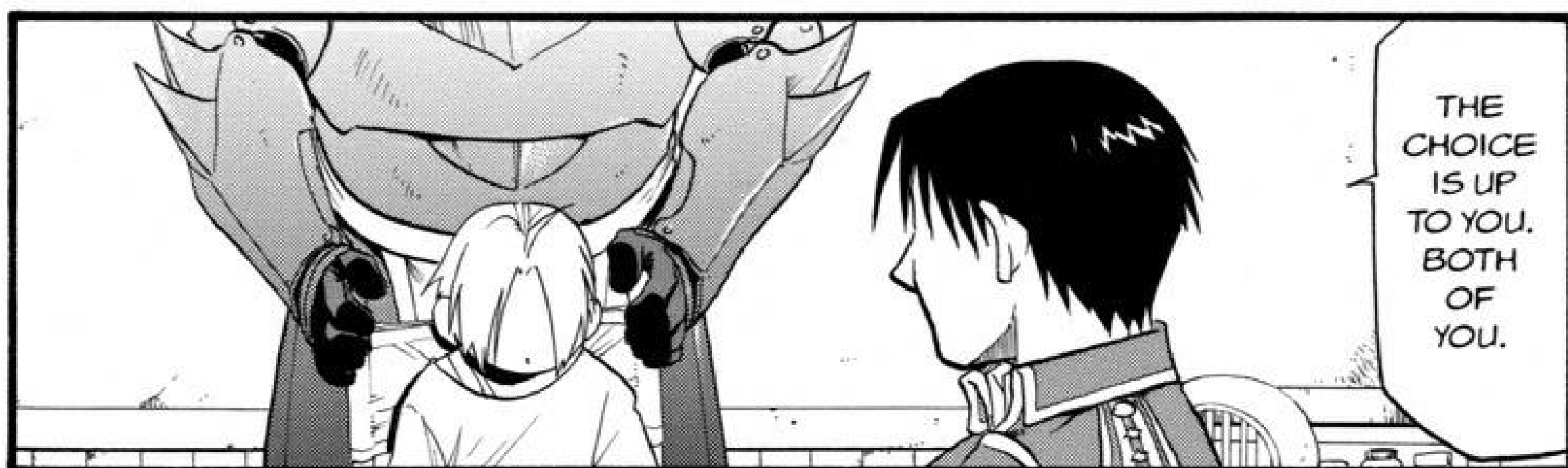
...OR YOU CAN
MAKE A *REAL*
CONTRIBUTION
TO ALCHEMY
BY ALLYING
YOURSELF WITH
THE MILITARY...
AND FIND A WAY
TO CHANGE
YOURSELF
BACK!

YOU CAN
CHOOSE TO
LIVE THE REST
OF YOUR DAYS
AS A *SELF-*
PITYING
CRIPPLE WITH
A *SUIT OF*
ARMOR FOR A
BROTHER...



...I WILL
PULL THE
TRIGGER
WITHOUT
HESITA-
TION.

UNTIL THE
DAY THAT
PERSON
REACHES
HIS GOAL...



THE
CHOICE
IS UP
TO YOU.
BOTH
OF
YOU.



IF THOSE
BOYS HAVE A
STRONG WILL,
THEY'LL KNOW
WHAT THE
RIGHT PLACE
IS FOR
THEM.



ALTHOUGH
THEY MAY
HAVE TO
WADE
THROUGH
A RIVER
OF MUD
TO GET
THERE.

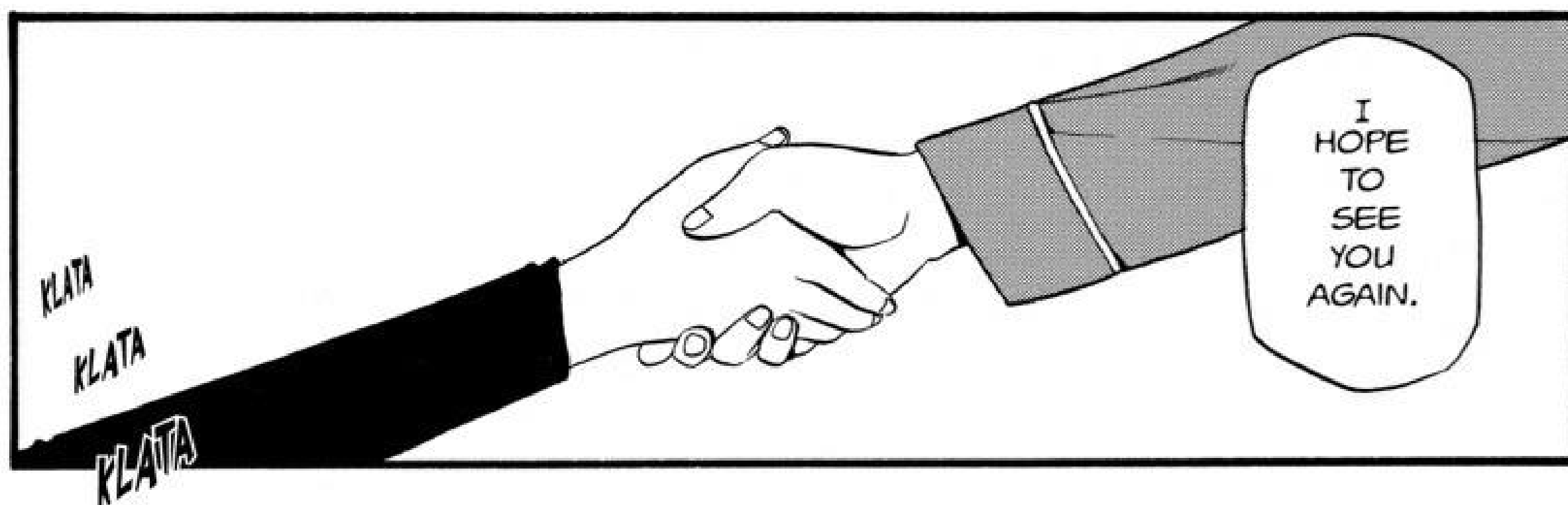


IF YOU DECIDE TO ENLIST, COME TO THE EAST CITY HEAD-QUARTERS.

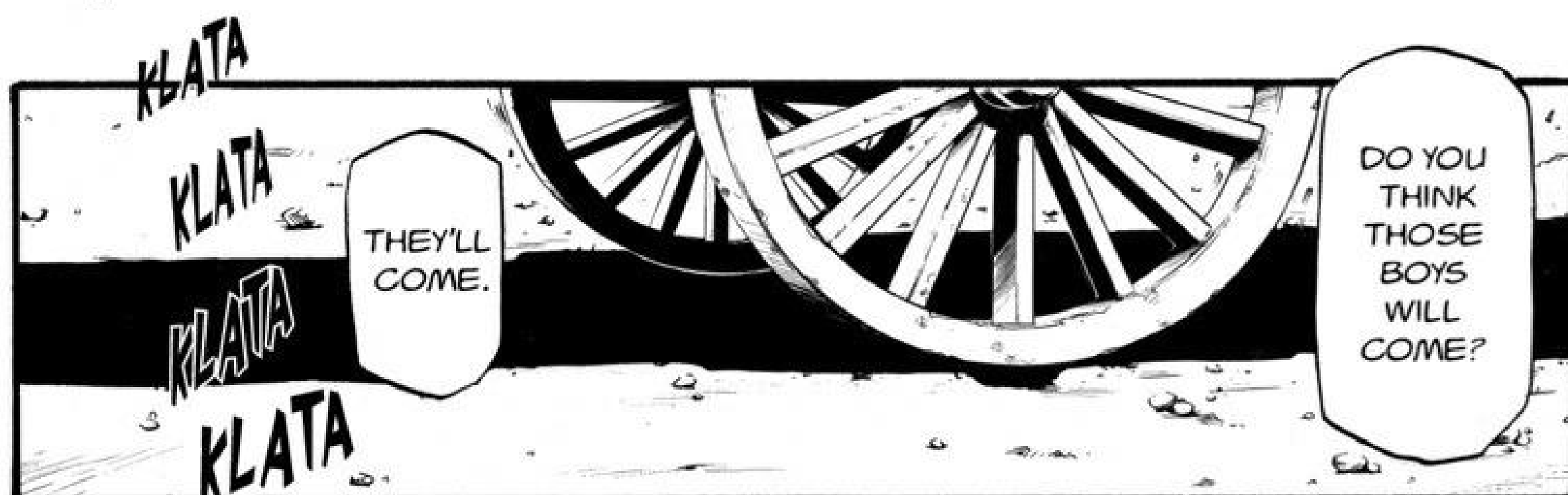


YES, SIR.





I
HOPE
TO
SEE
YOU
AGAIN.



THEY'LL
COME.

DO YOU
THINK
THOSE
BOYS
WILL
COME?



I
SAW...

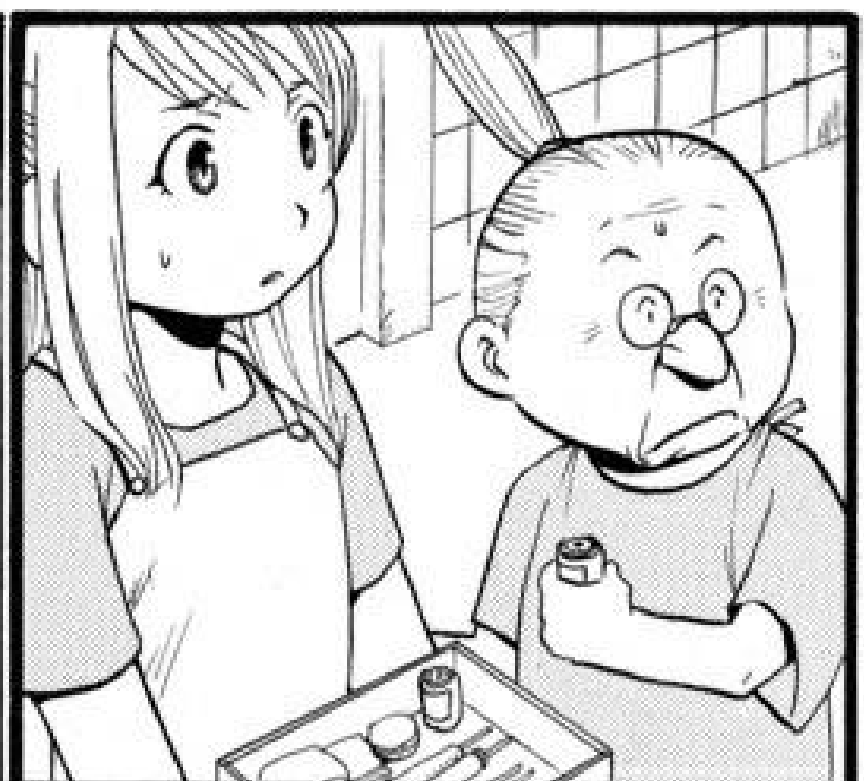
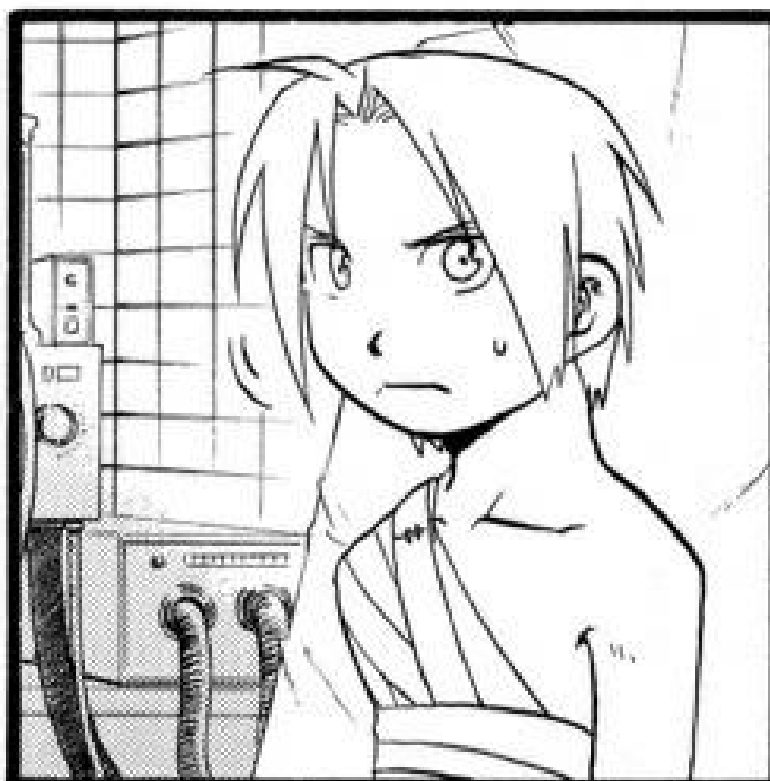
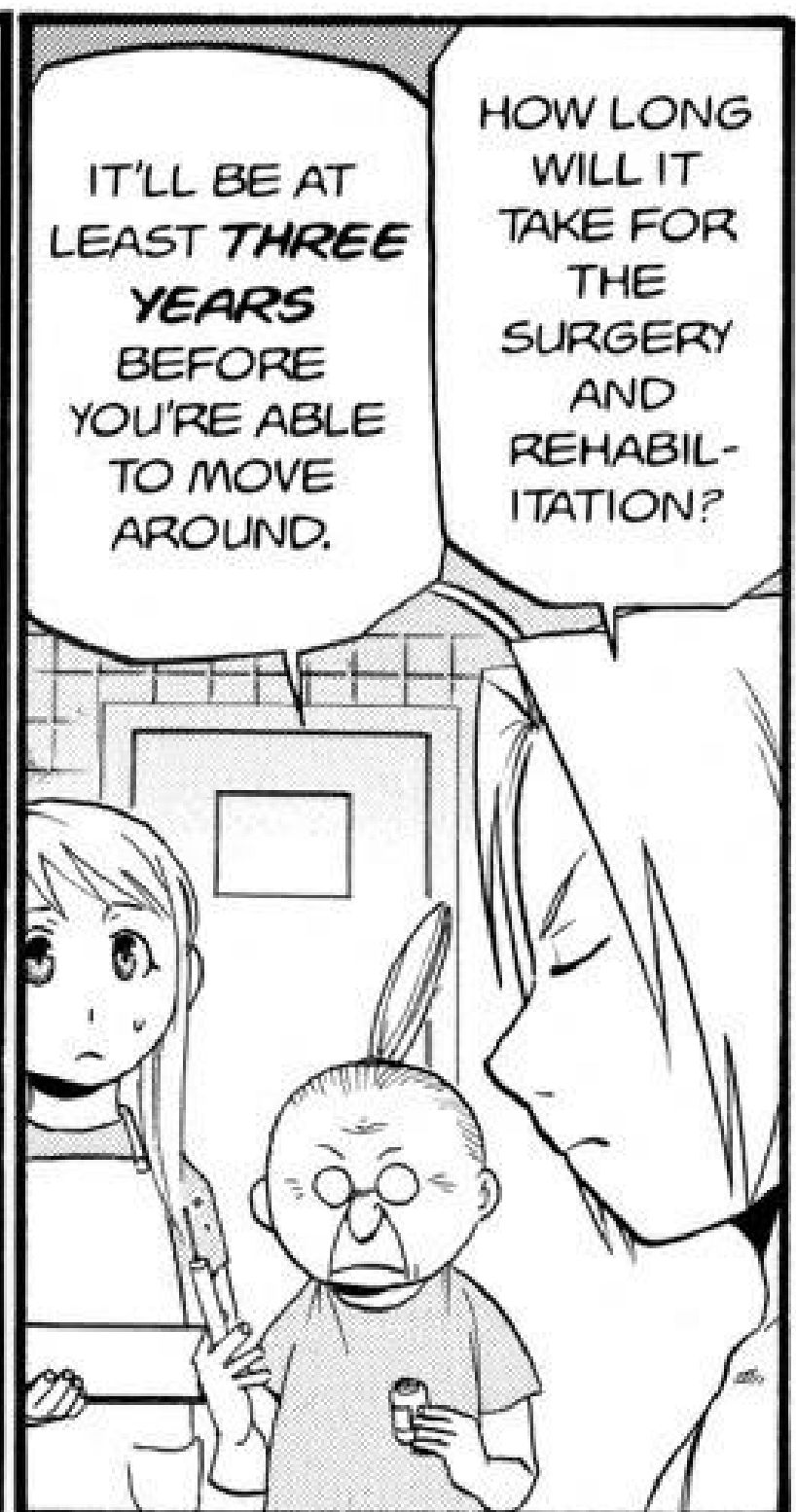
YOU
THINK
SO?

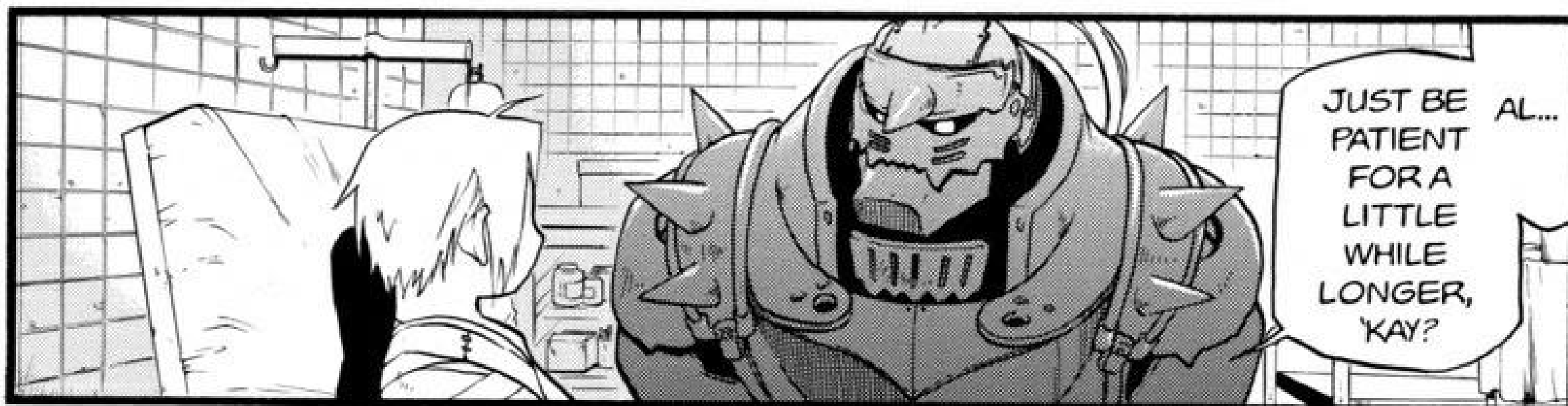
JUDGING
BY THE
LOOK IN
THAT BOY'S
EYES, I'D
SAY HE WAS
BEYOND
HELP.

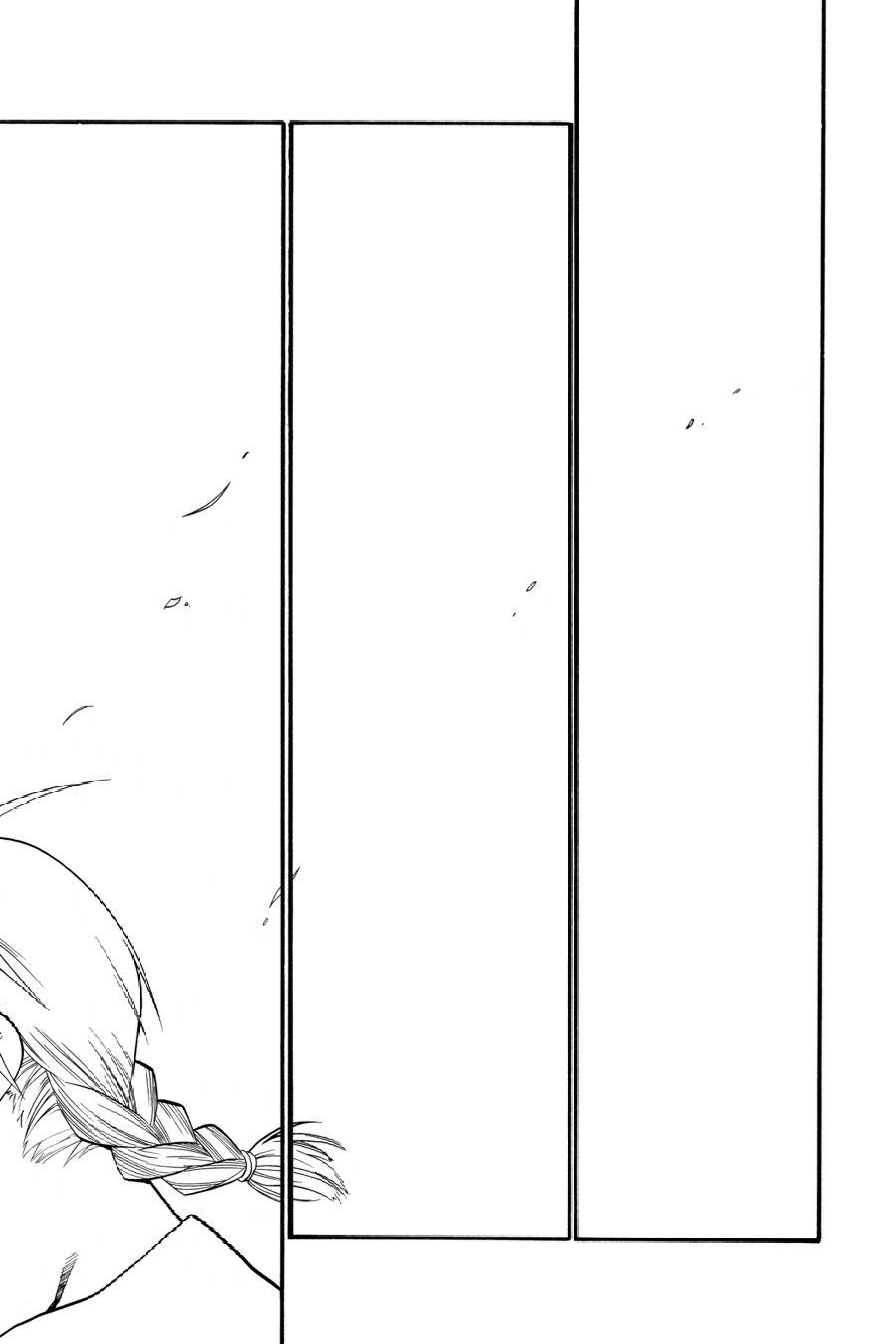
YOU'RE
VERY
CONFI-
DENT.



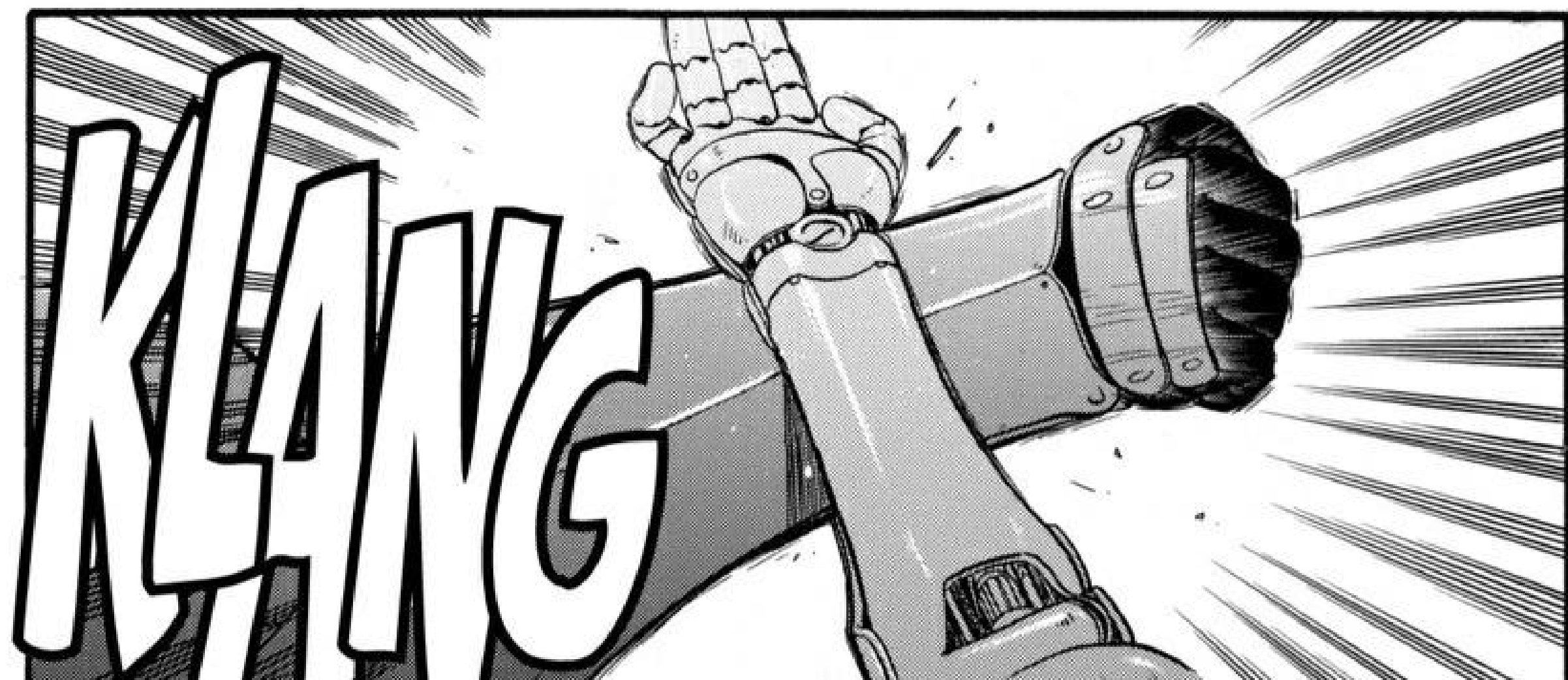
...EYES
THAT
WERE
BURNING
LIKE
FIRE.



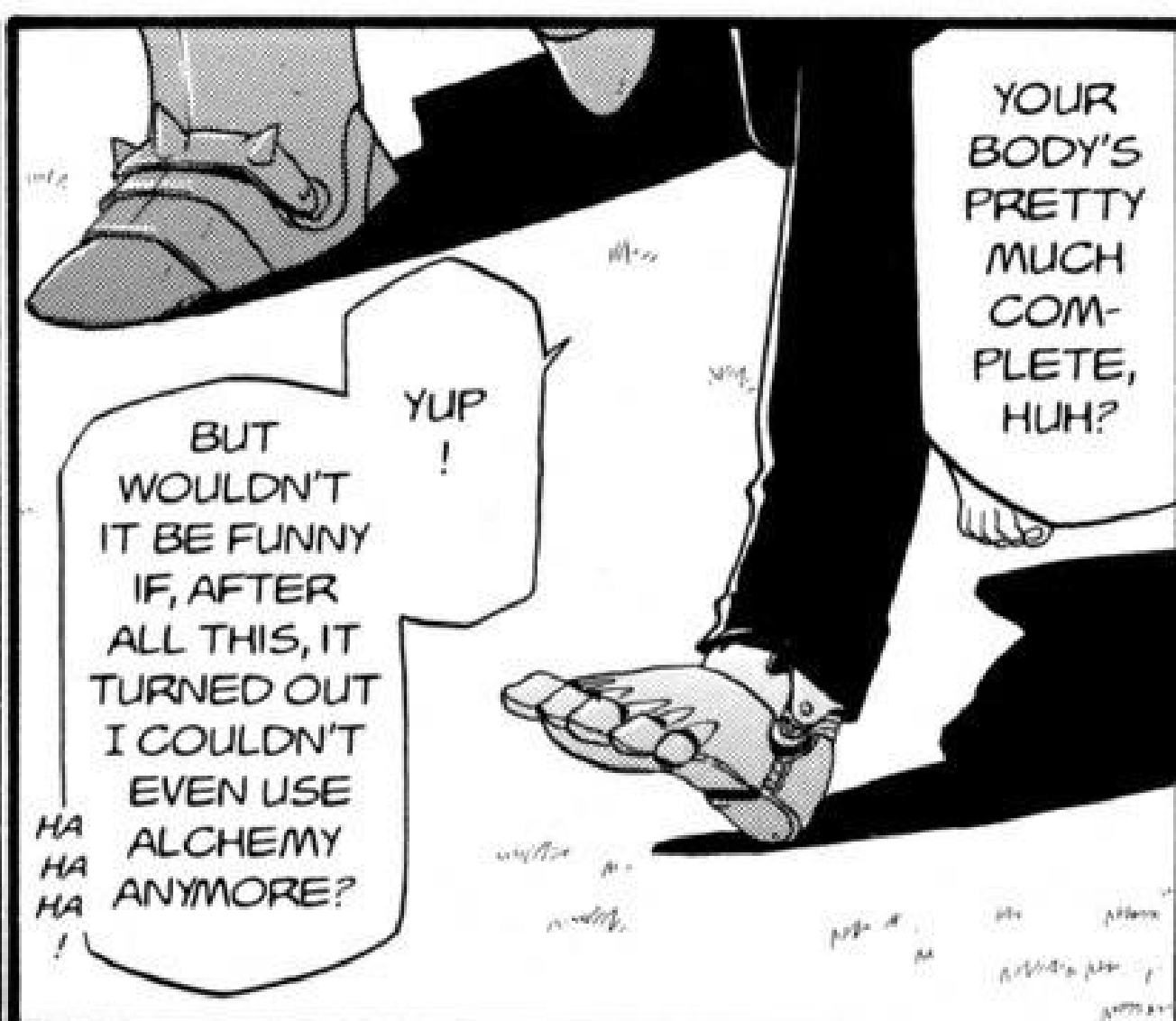
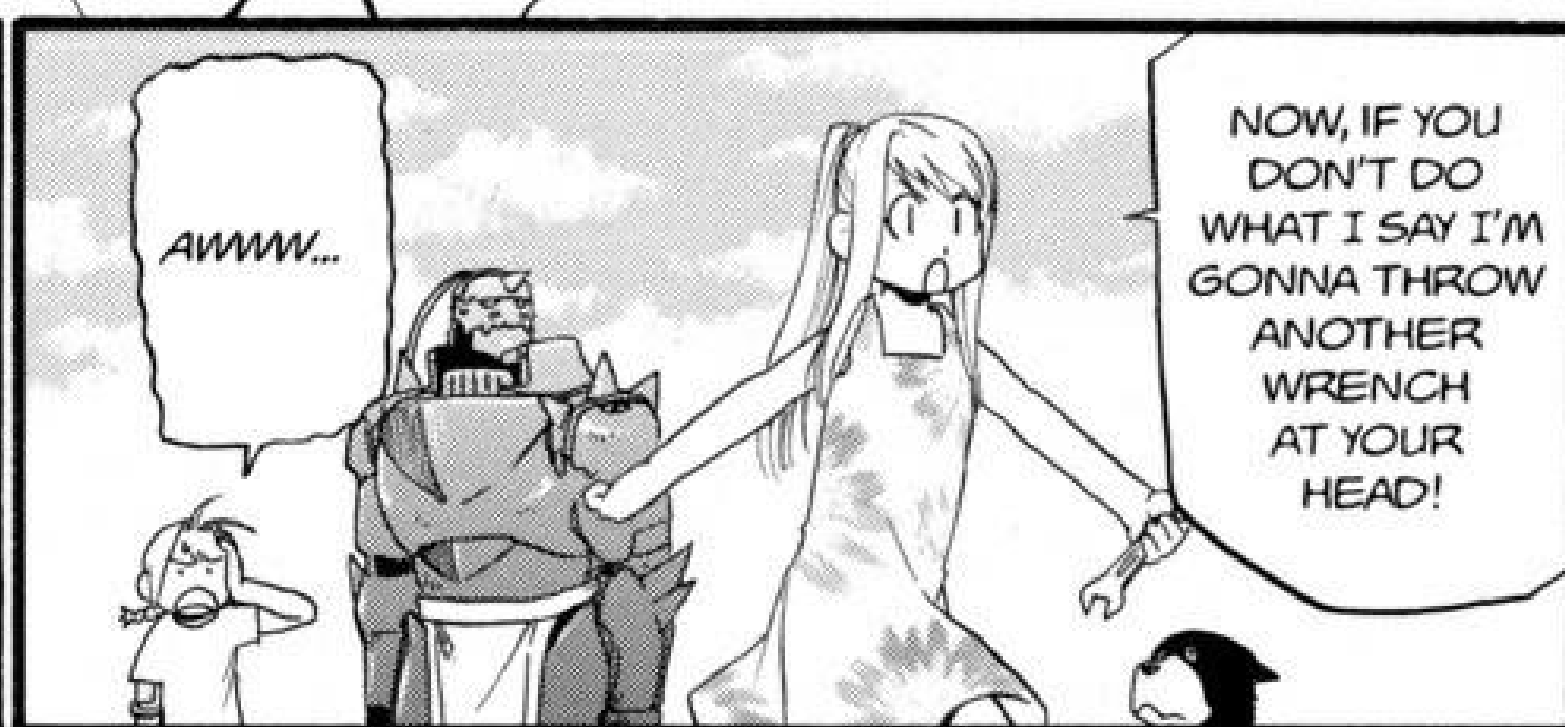
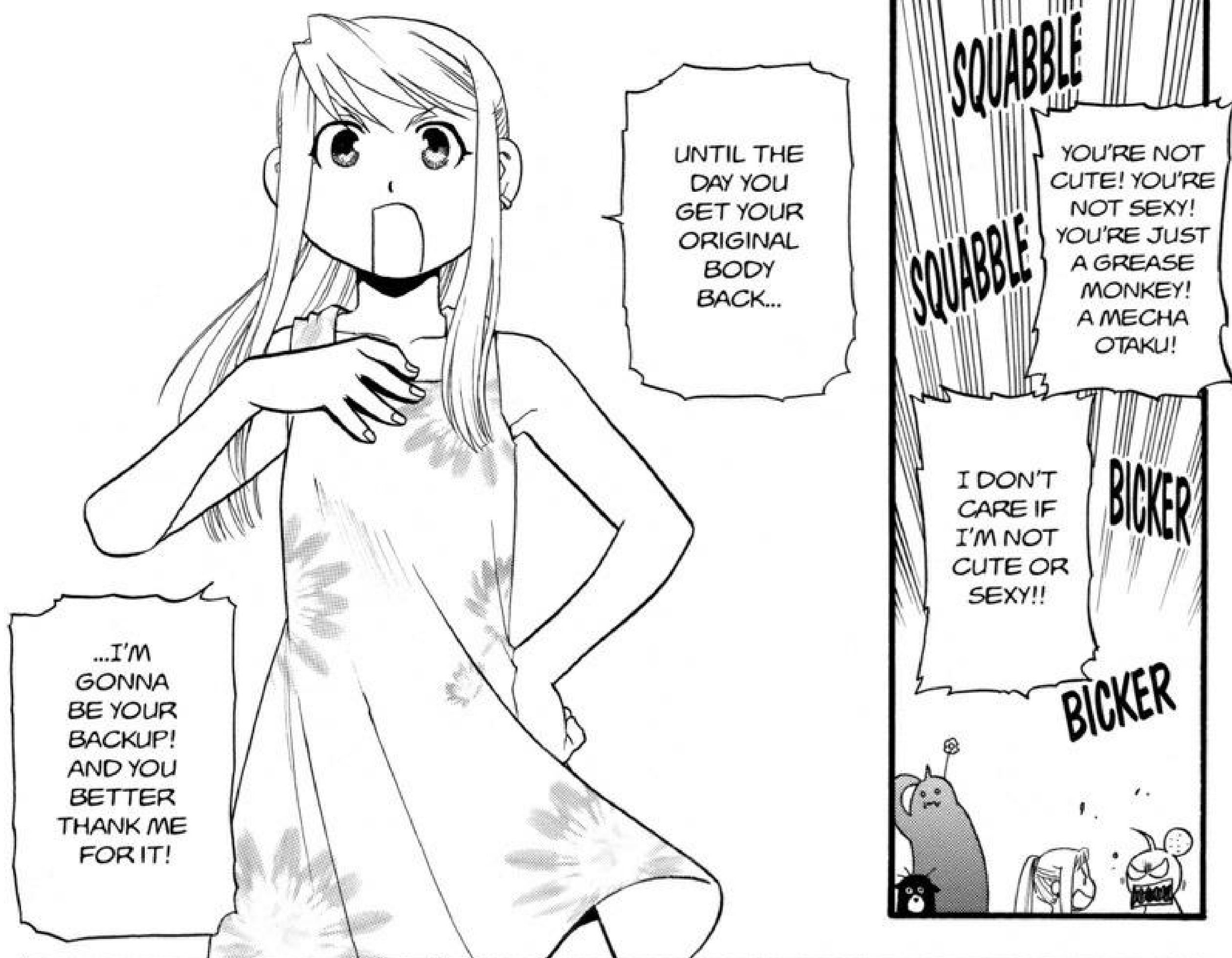


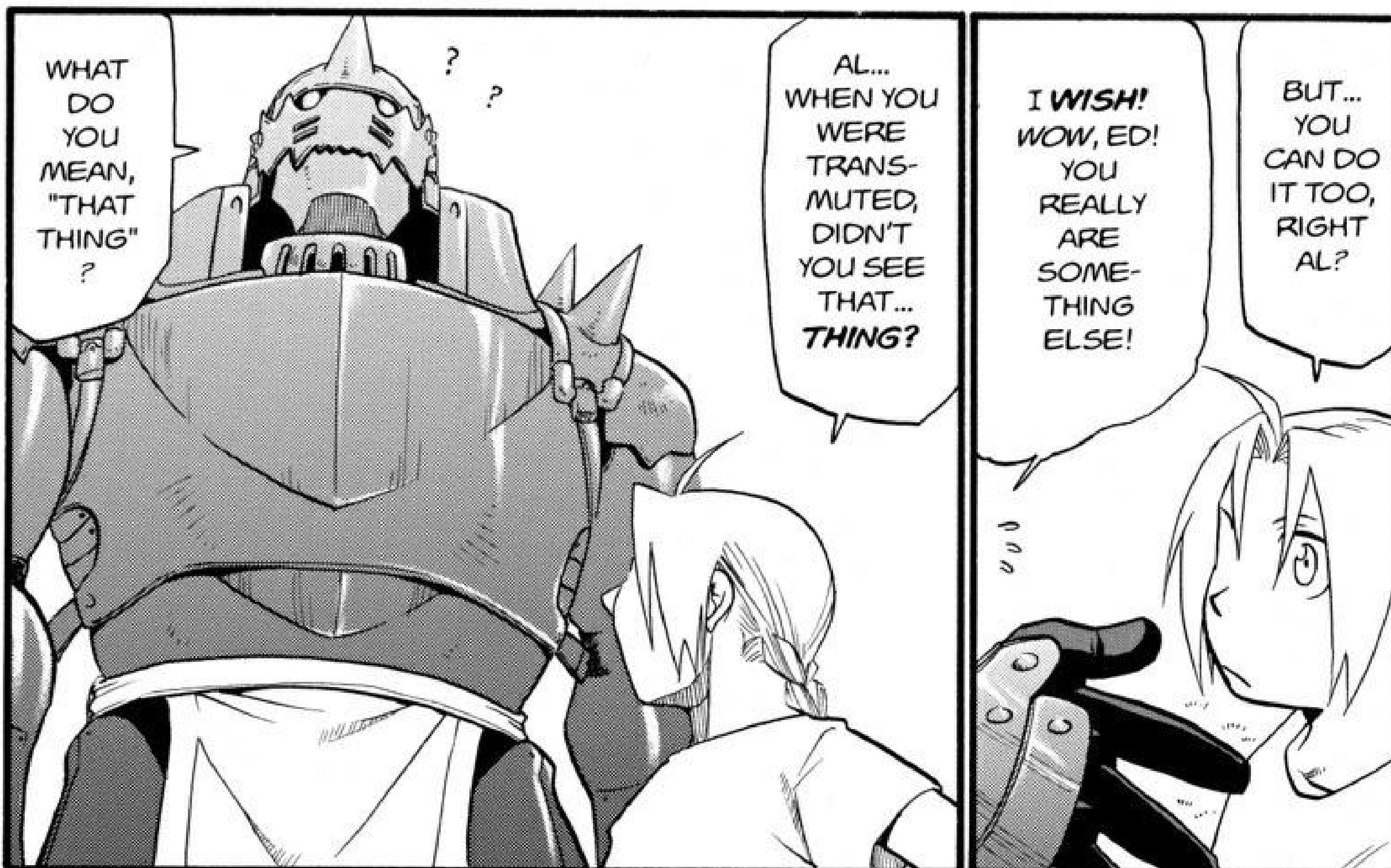


GNG GNG BANG





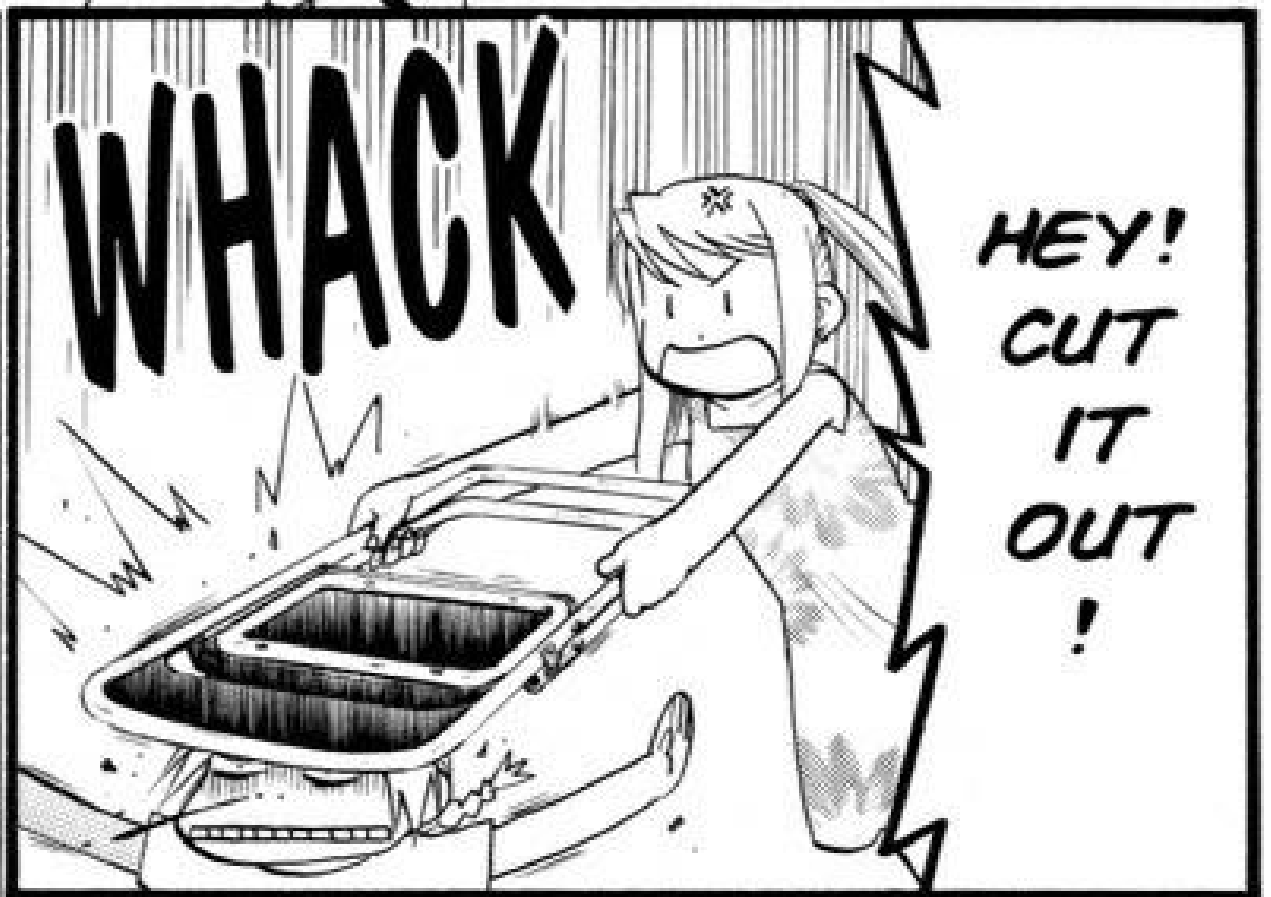
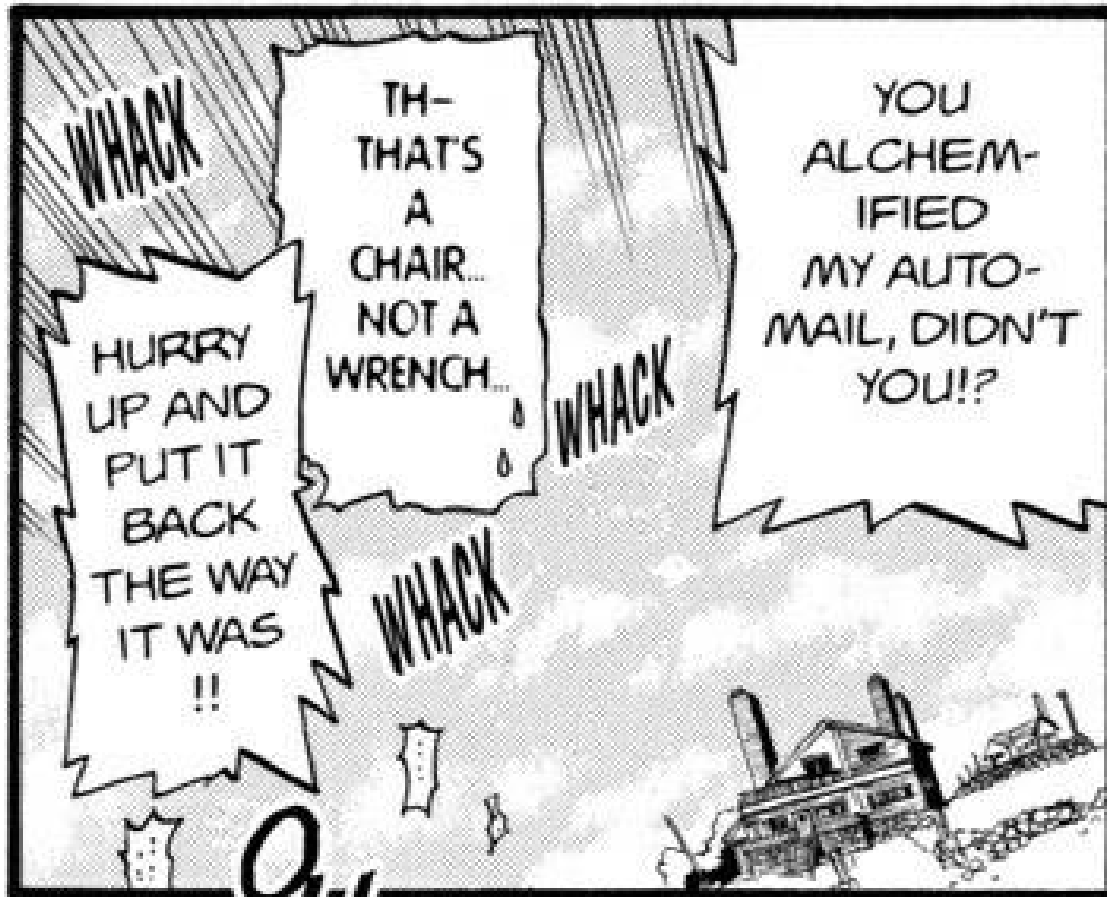




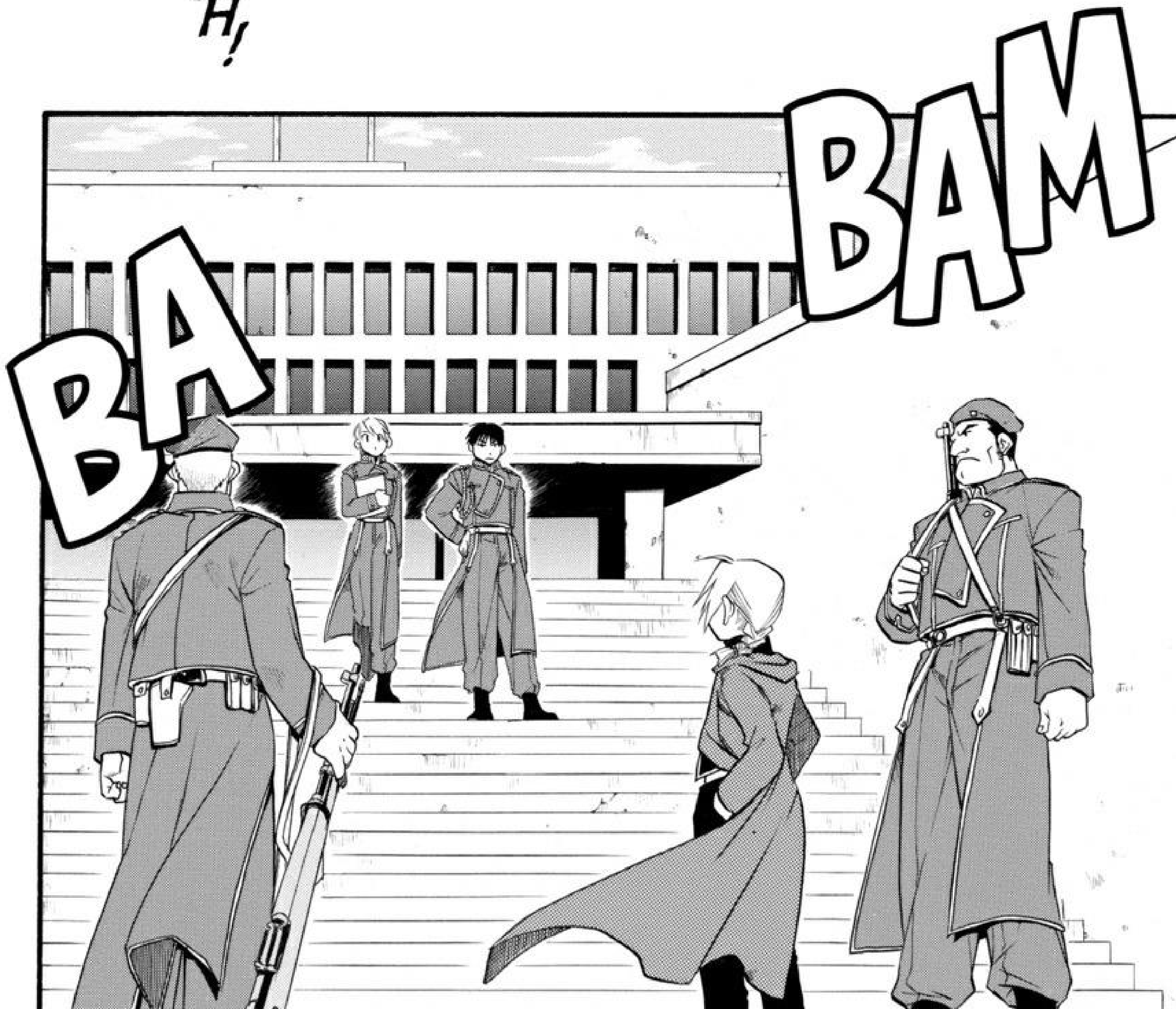
IT'S
NOTHING.



...NEVER
MIND.



OUCH!







BUT A
KID-ISN'T
THAT A
LITTLE...
UNORTHO-
DOX?

KLAK

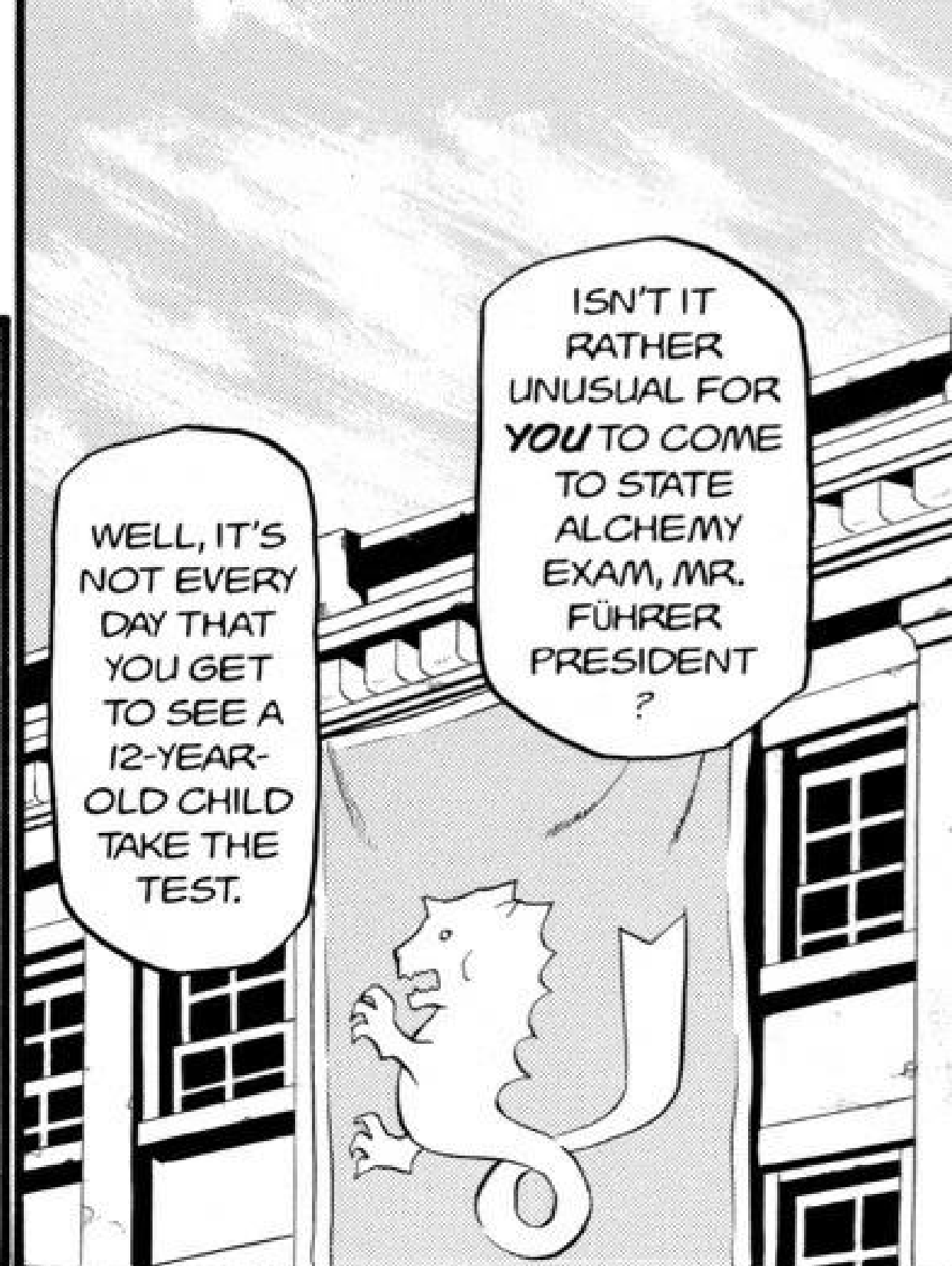
KLAK

KLAK

SHOULD
MAKE
FOR
SOME
INTEREST-
ING
CONVER-
SATION
AT
LEAST.

KLAK

KLAK

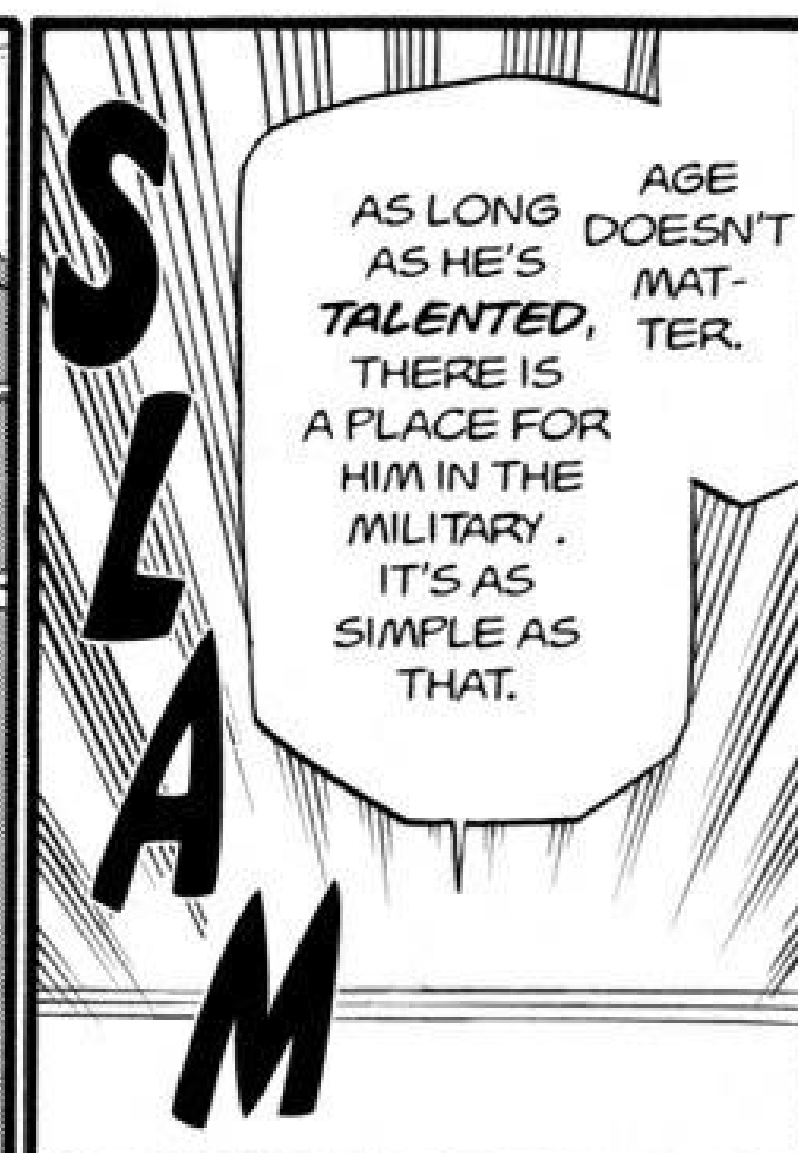


WELL, IT'S
NOT EVERY
DAY THAT
YOU GET
TO SEE A
12-YEAR-
OLD CHILD
TAKE THE
TEST.

ISN'T IT
RATHER
UNUSUAL FOR
YOU TO COME
TO STATE
ALCHEMY
EXAM, MR.
FÜHRER
PRESIDENT
?

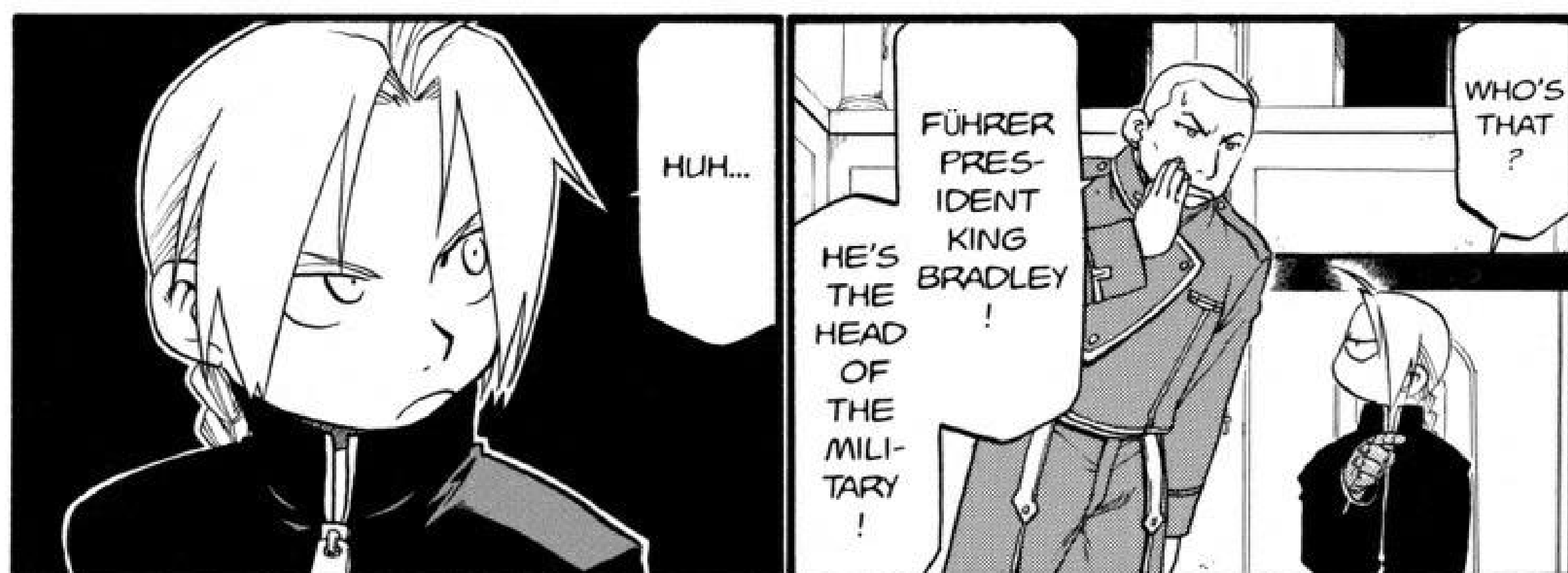
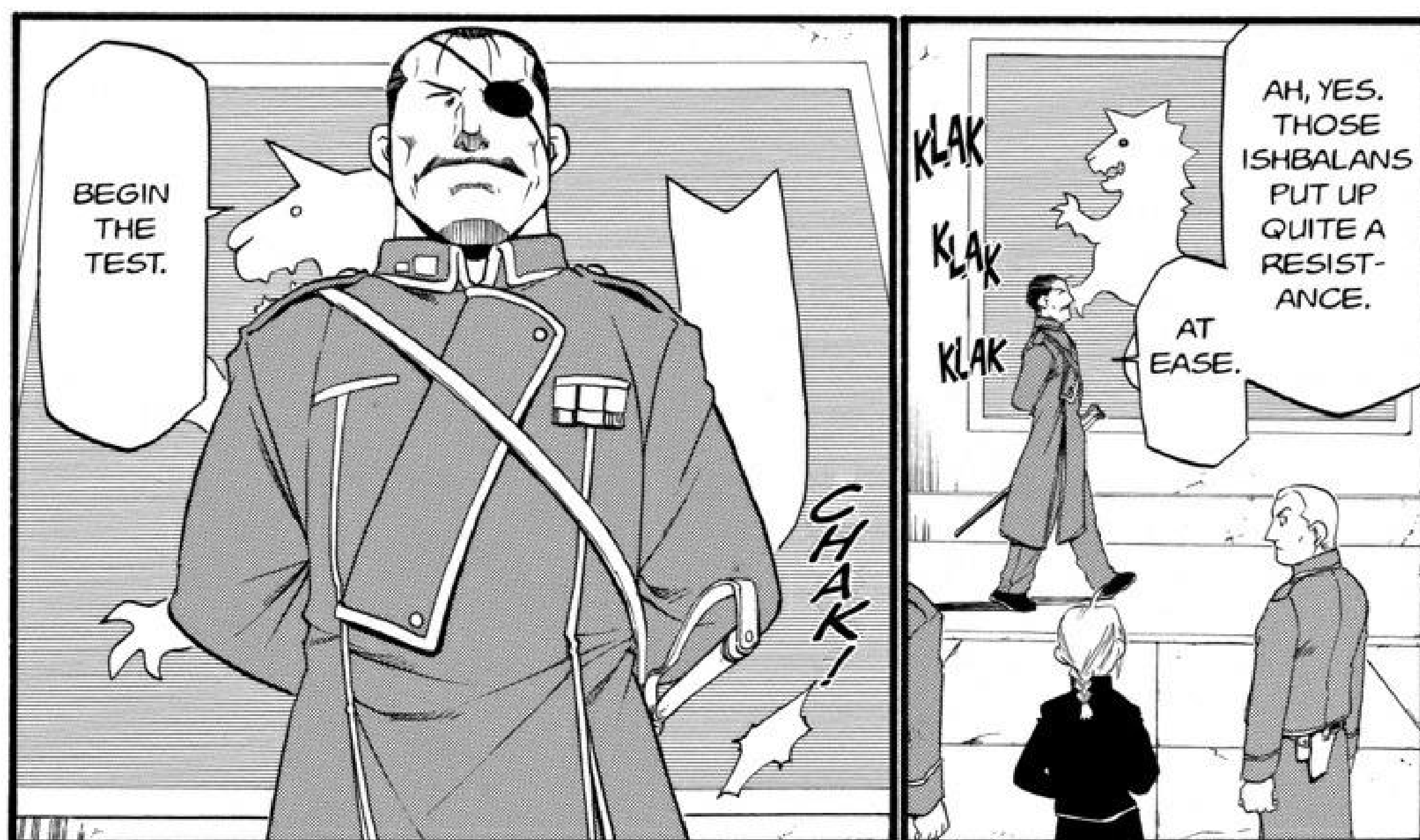
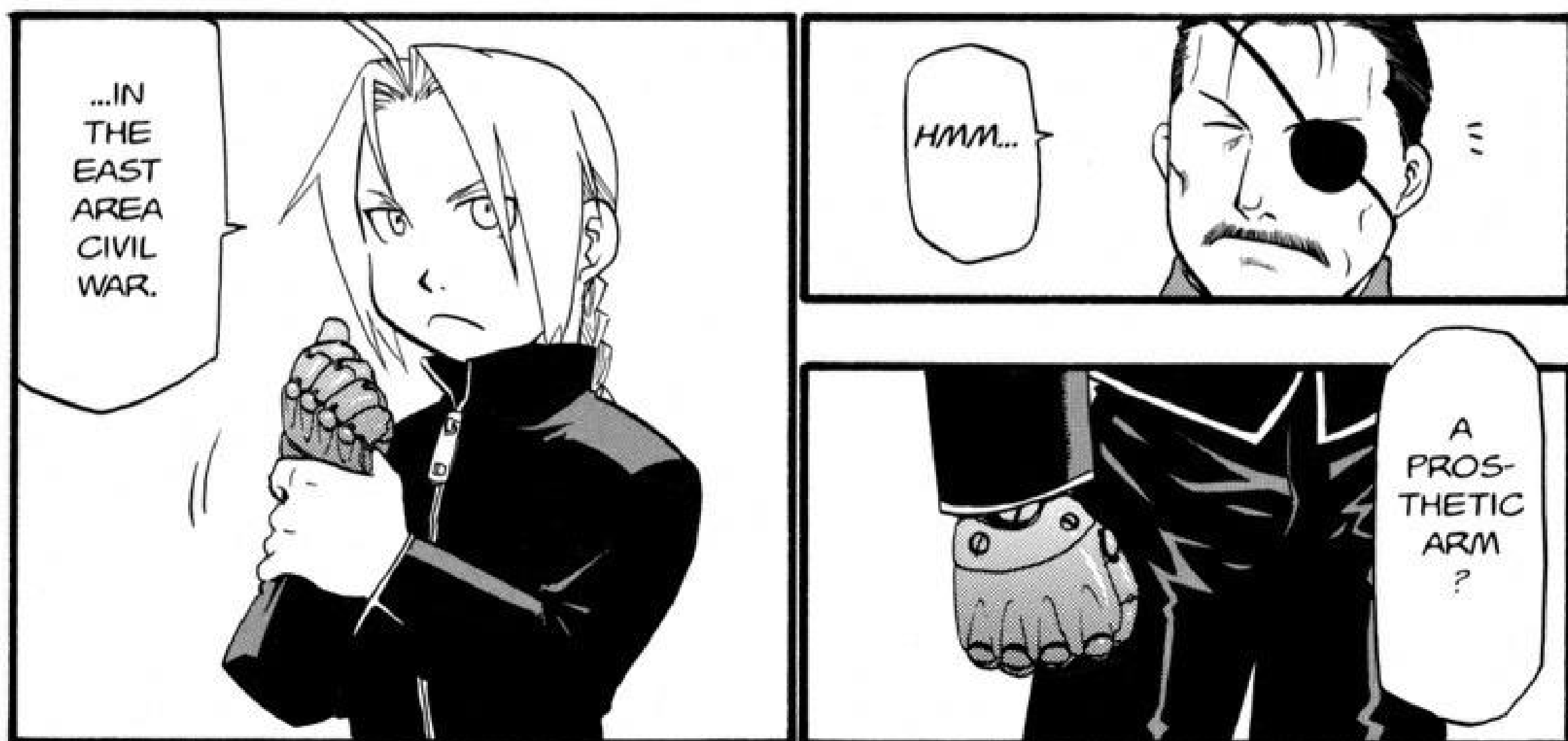


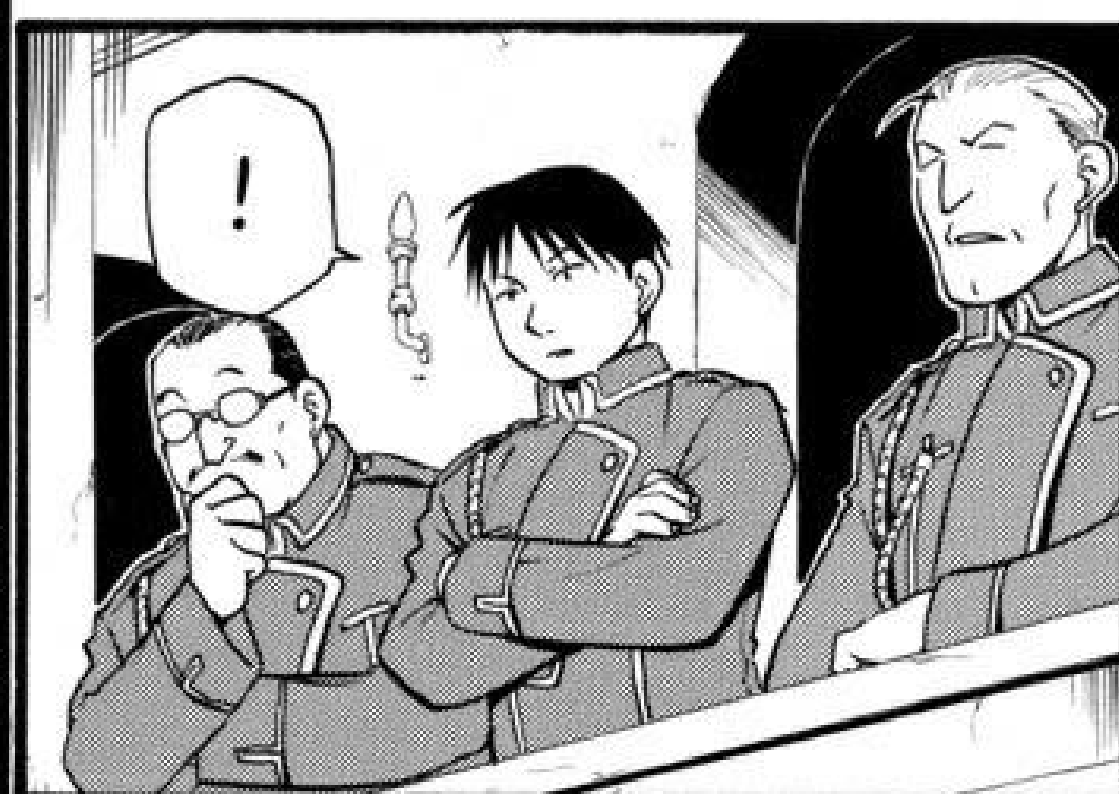
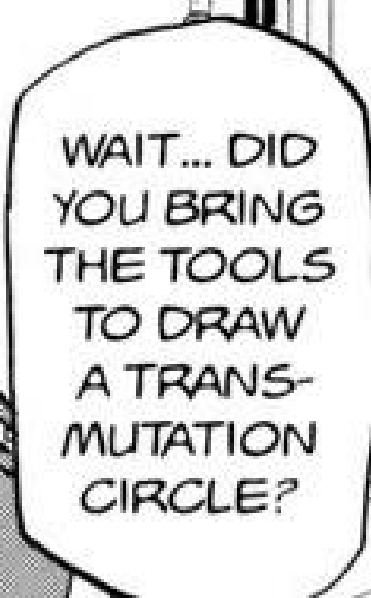
SH
AA
A

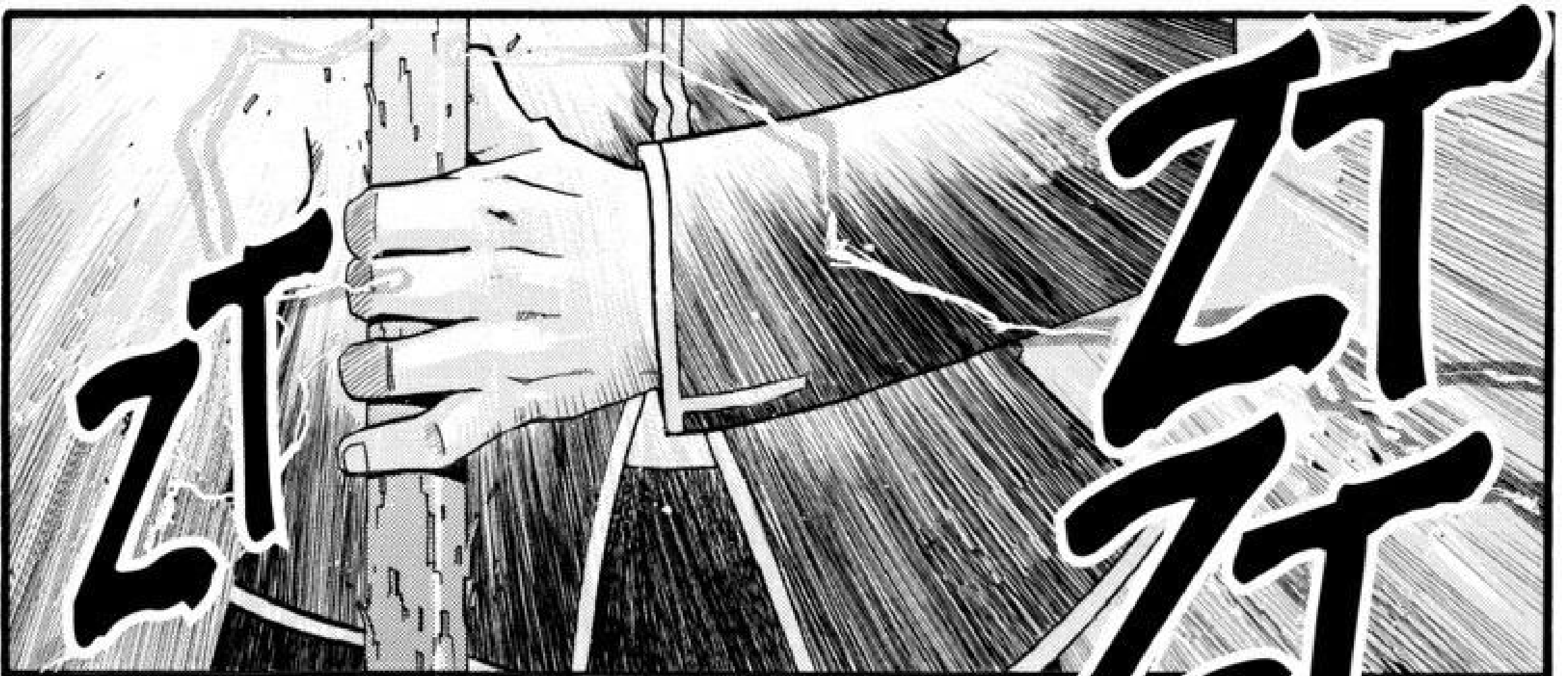
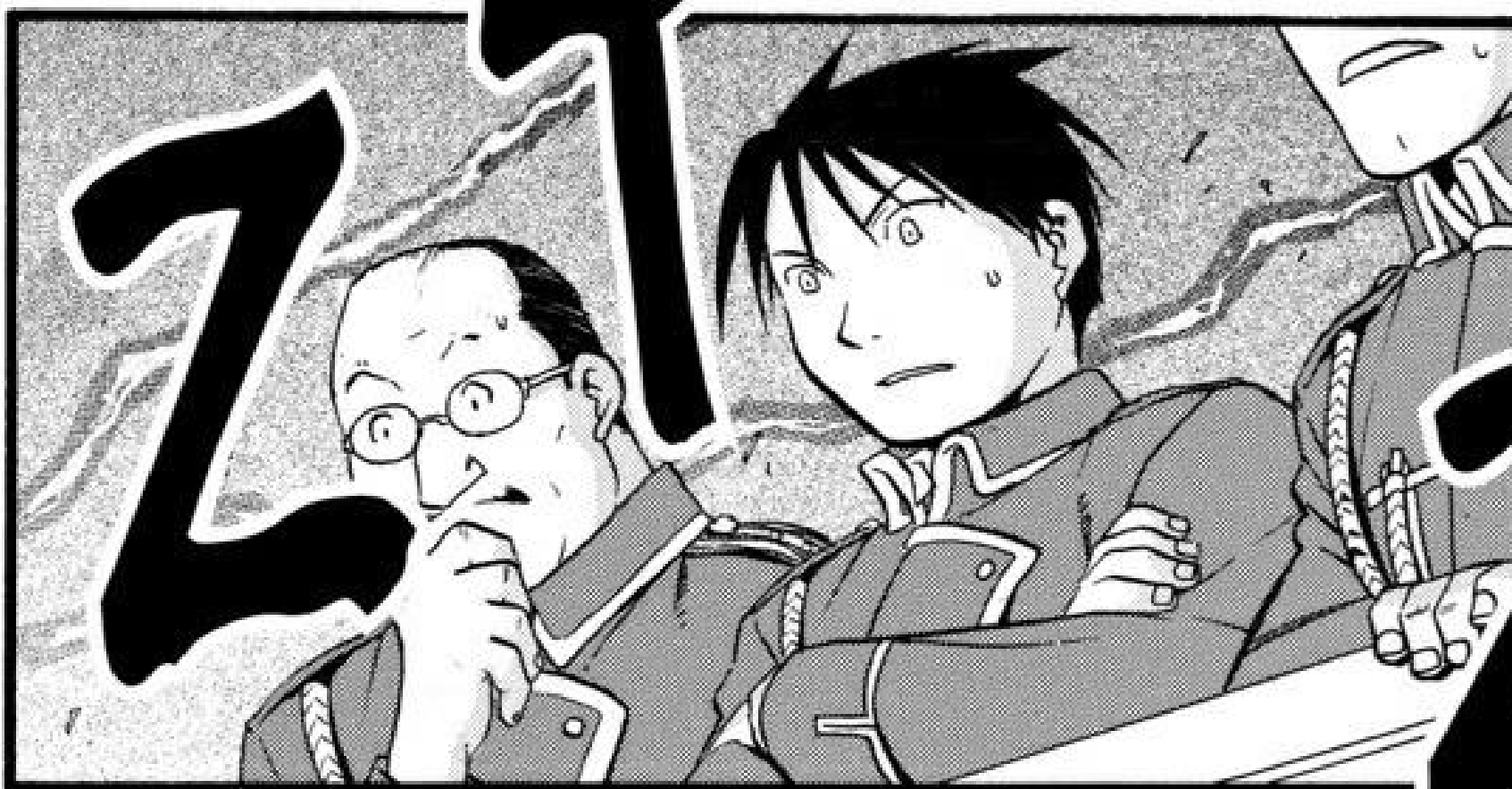


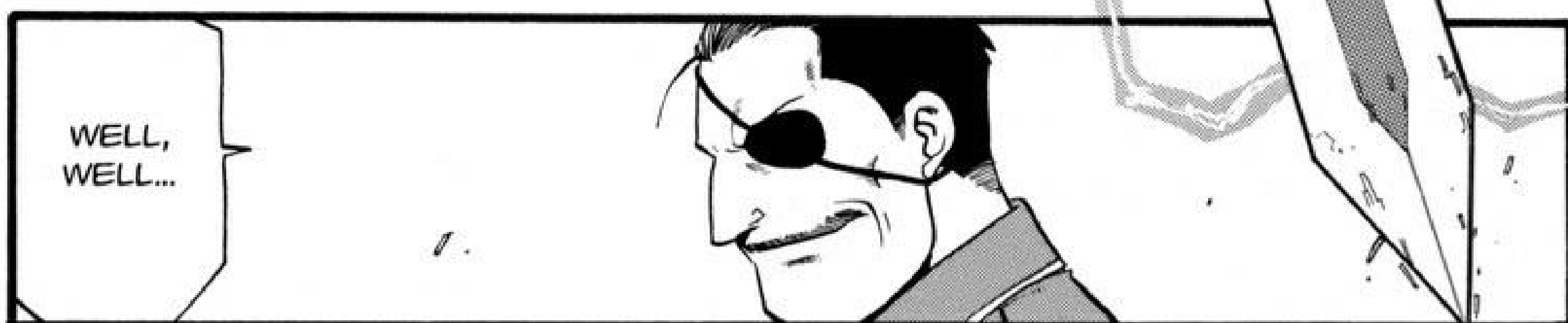
AGE
DOESN'T
MATTER.
AS LONG
AS HE'S
TALENTED,
THERE IS
A PLACE FOR
HIM IN THE
MILITARY.
IT'S AS
SIMPLE AS
THAT.

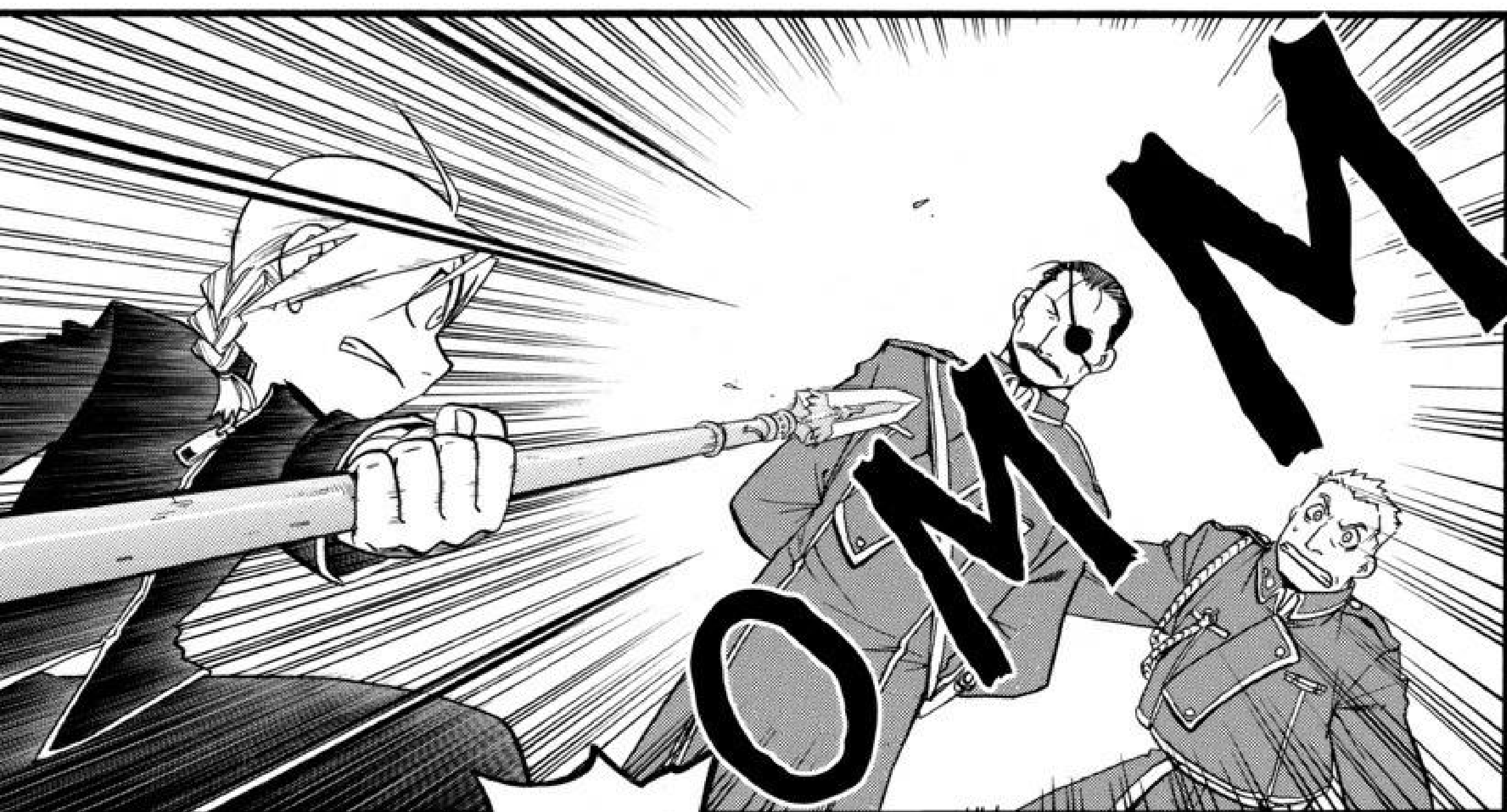


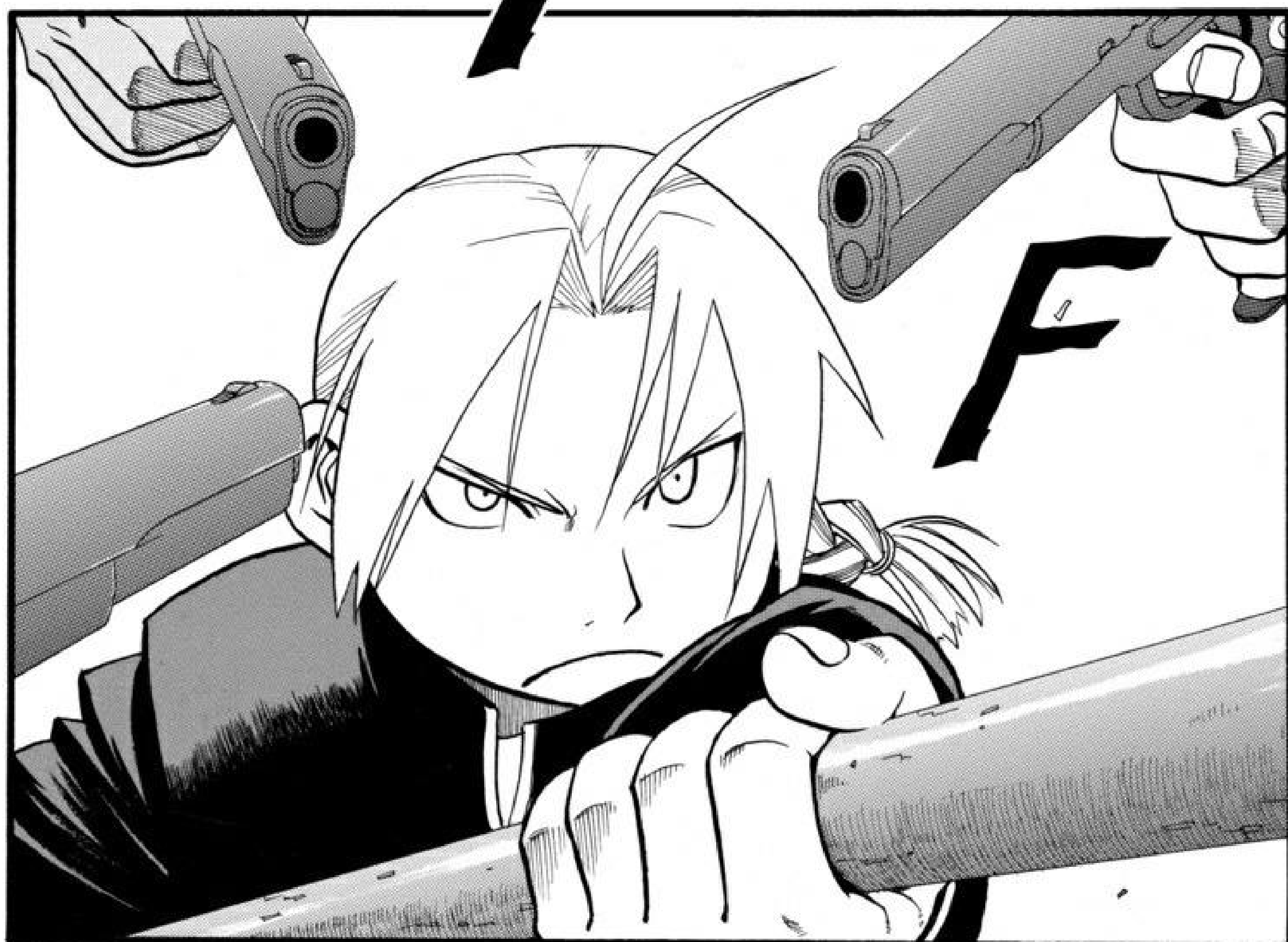
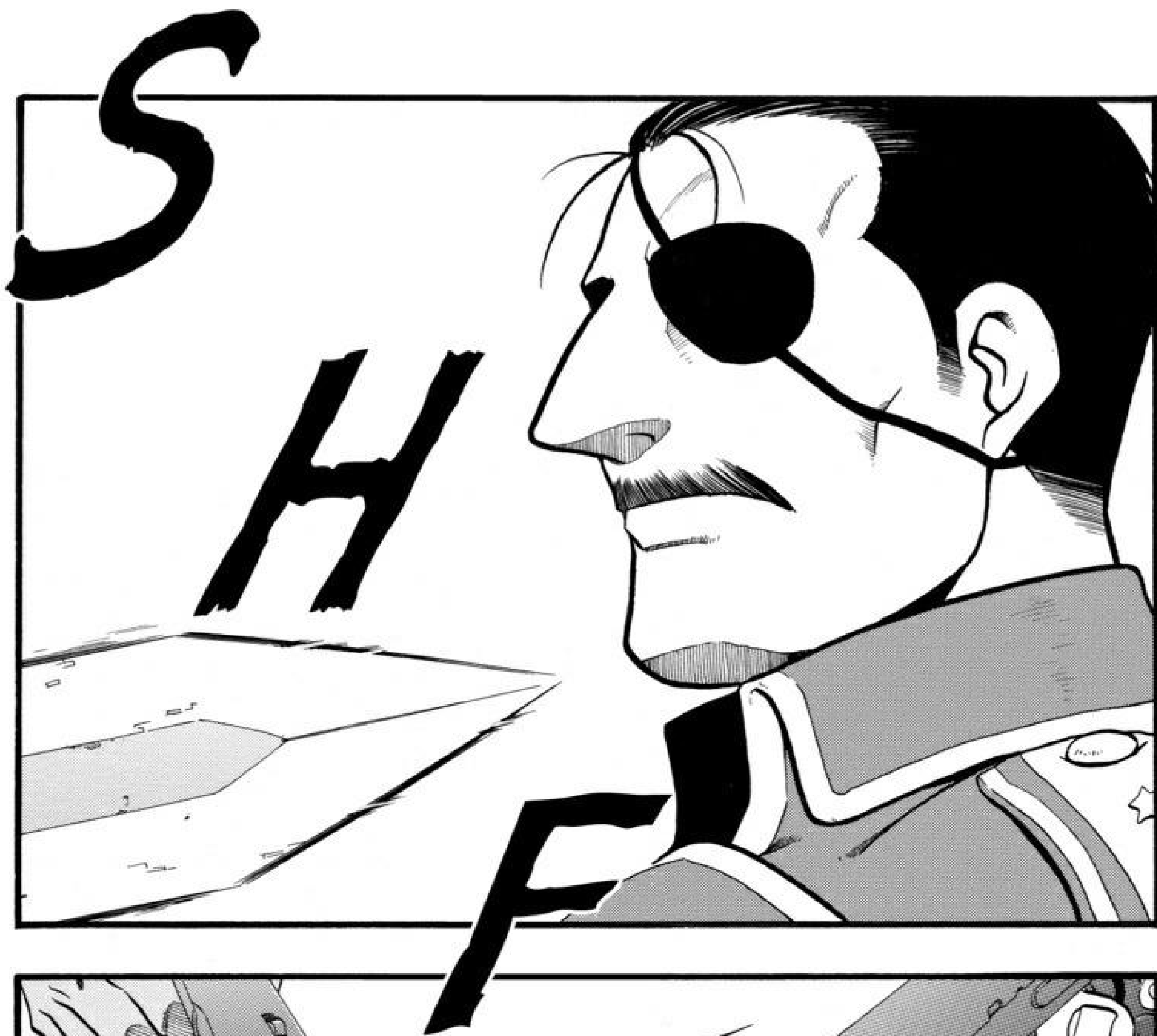


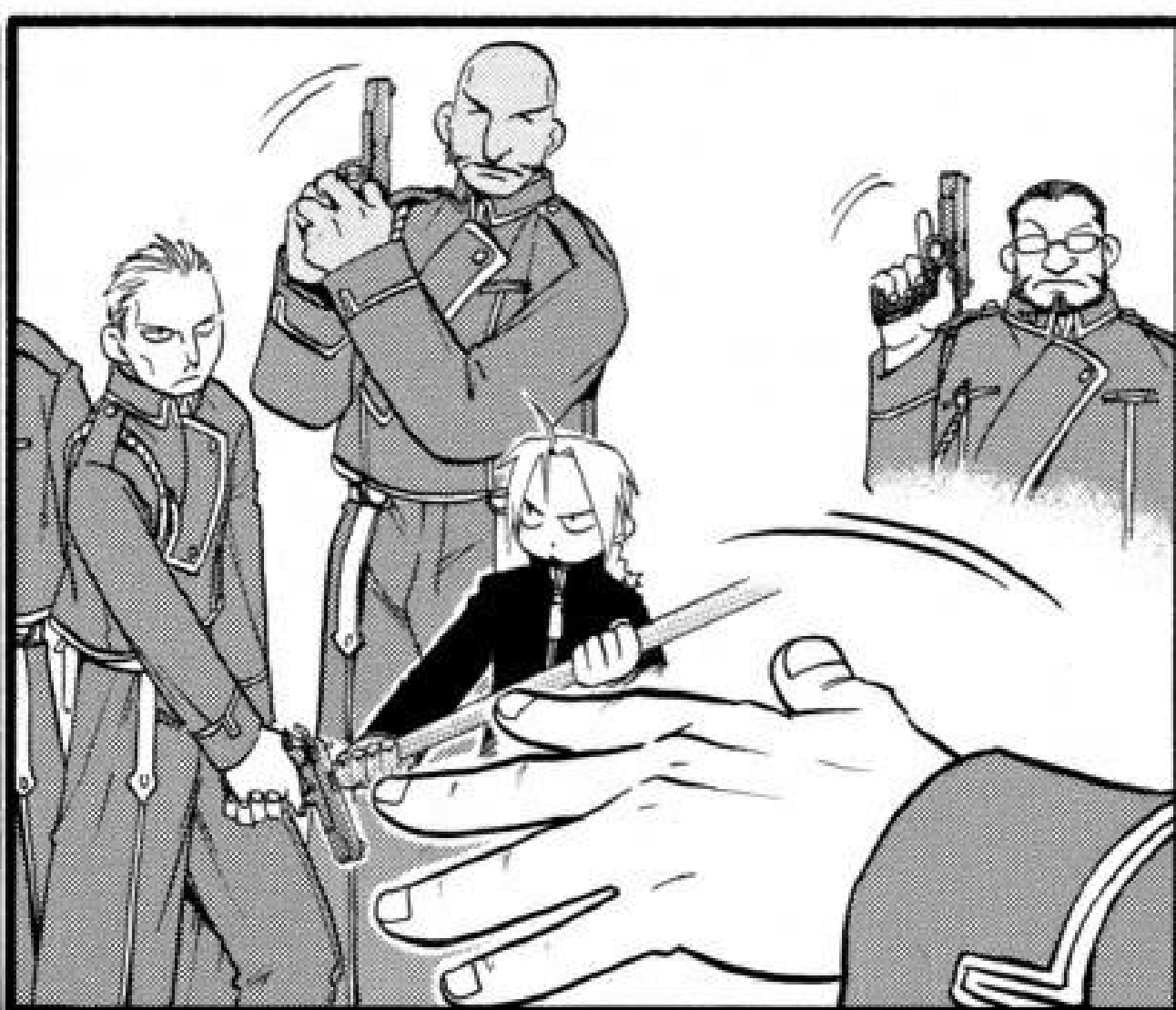
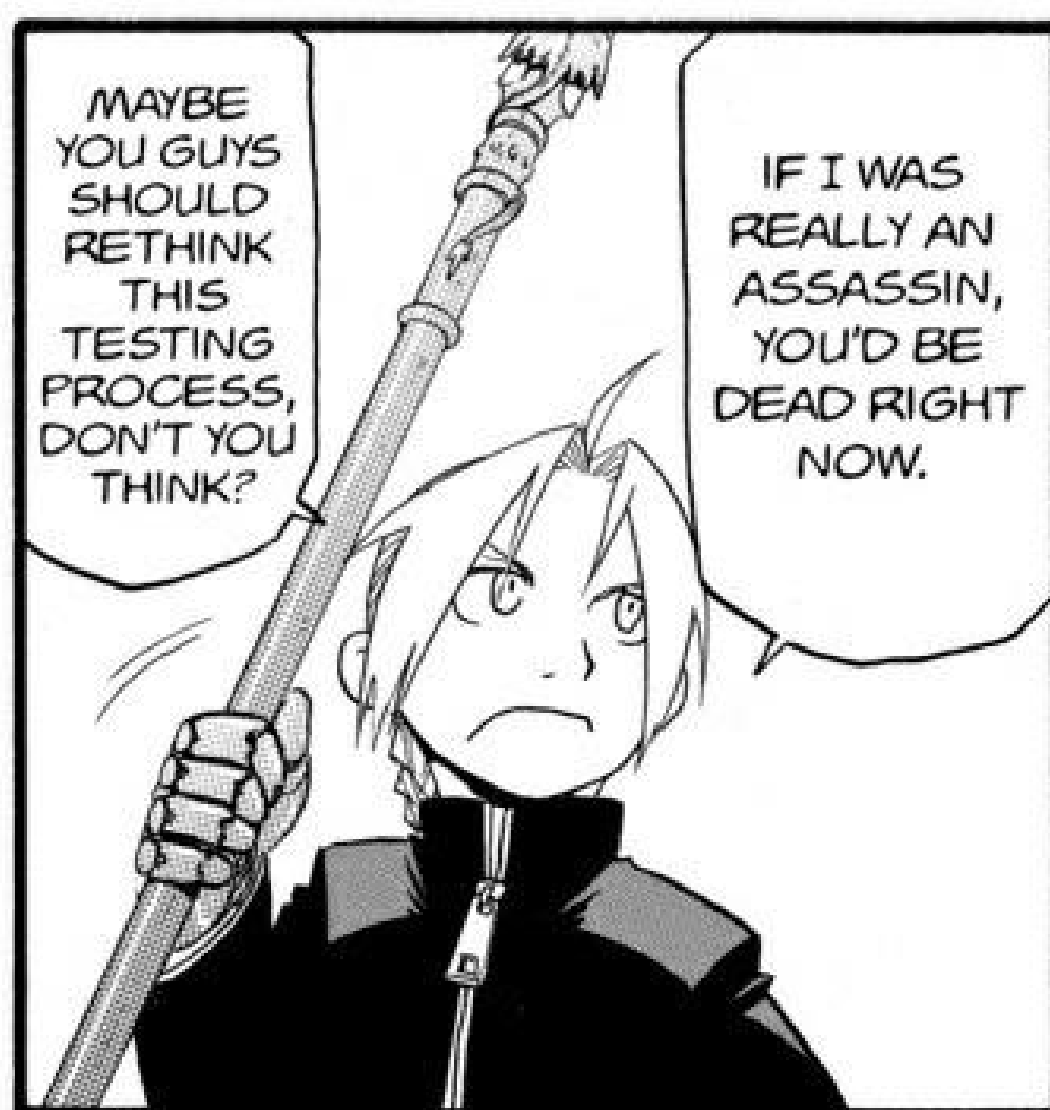
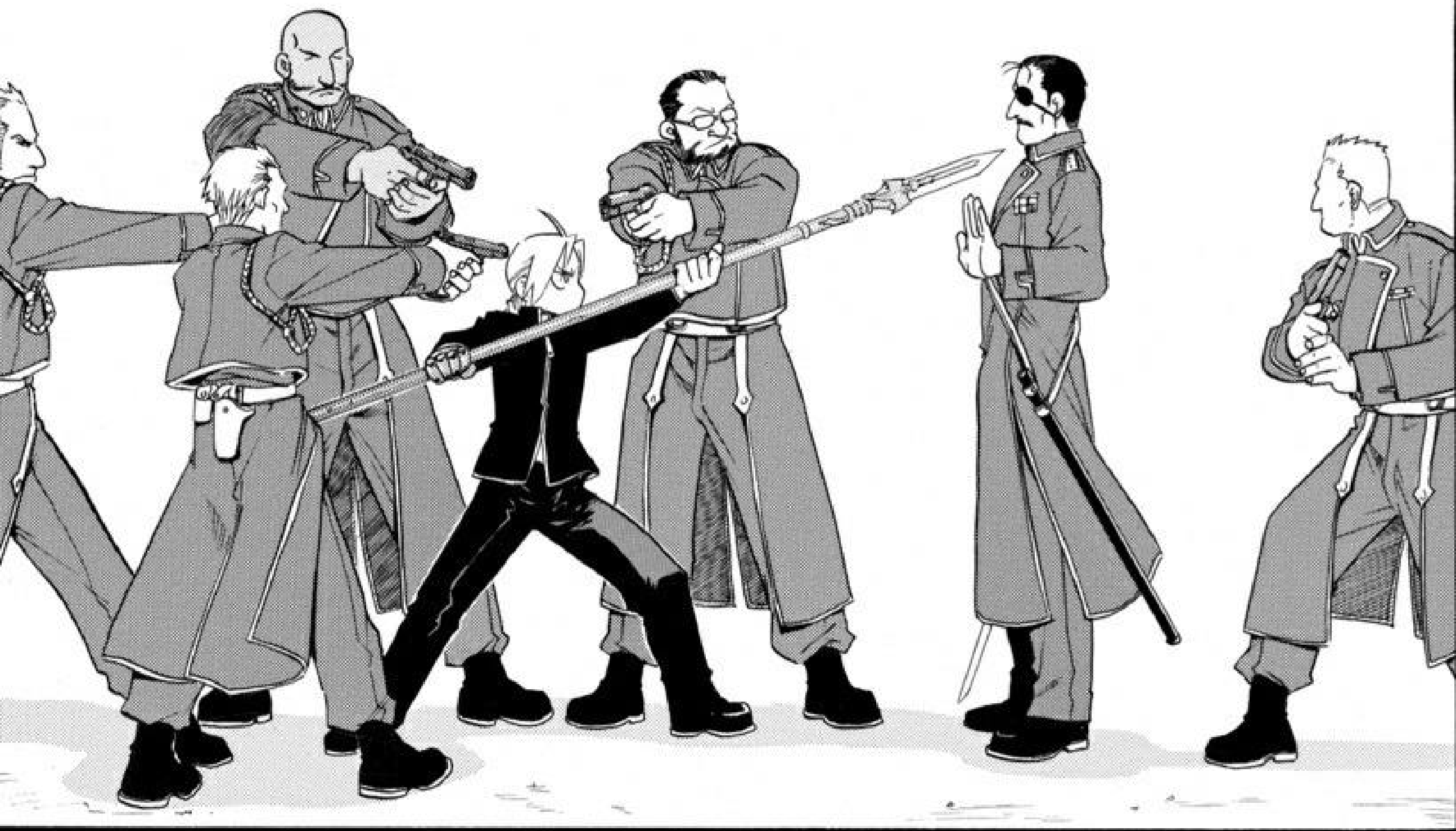


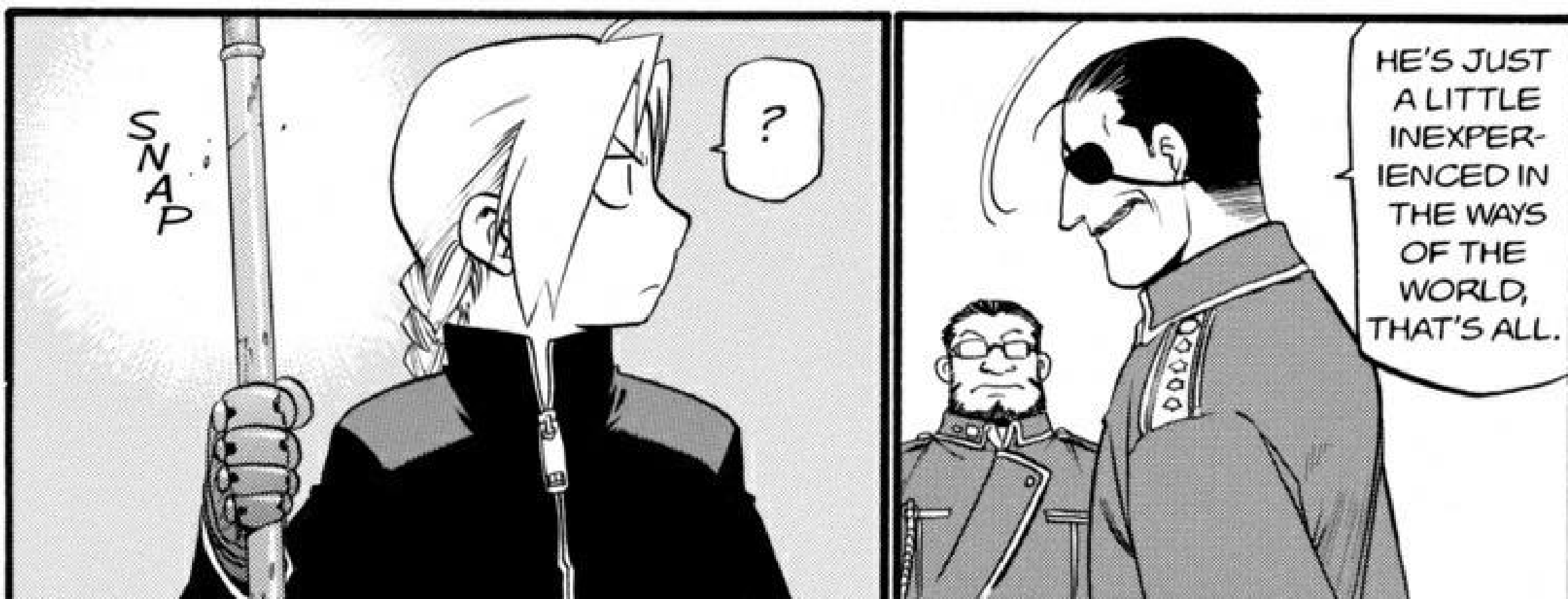
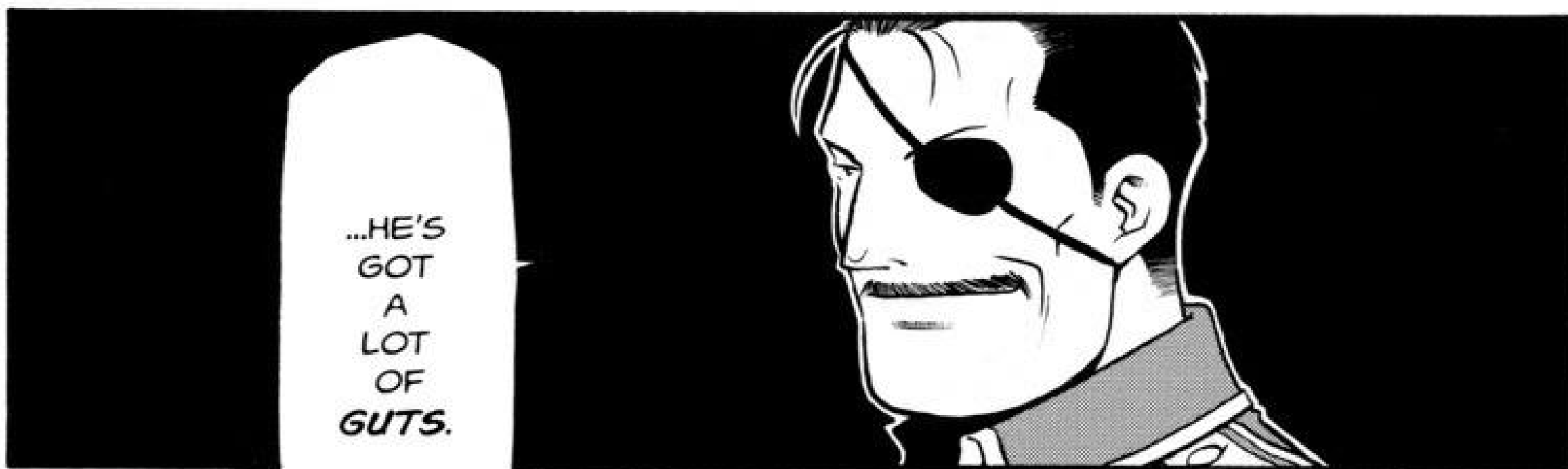
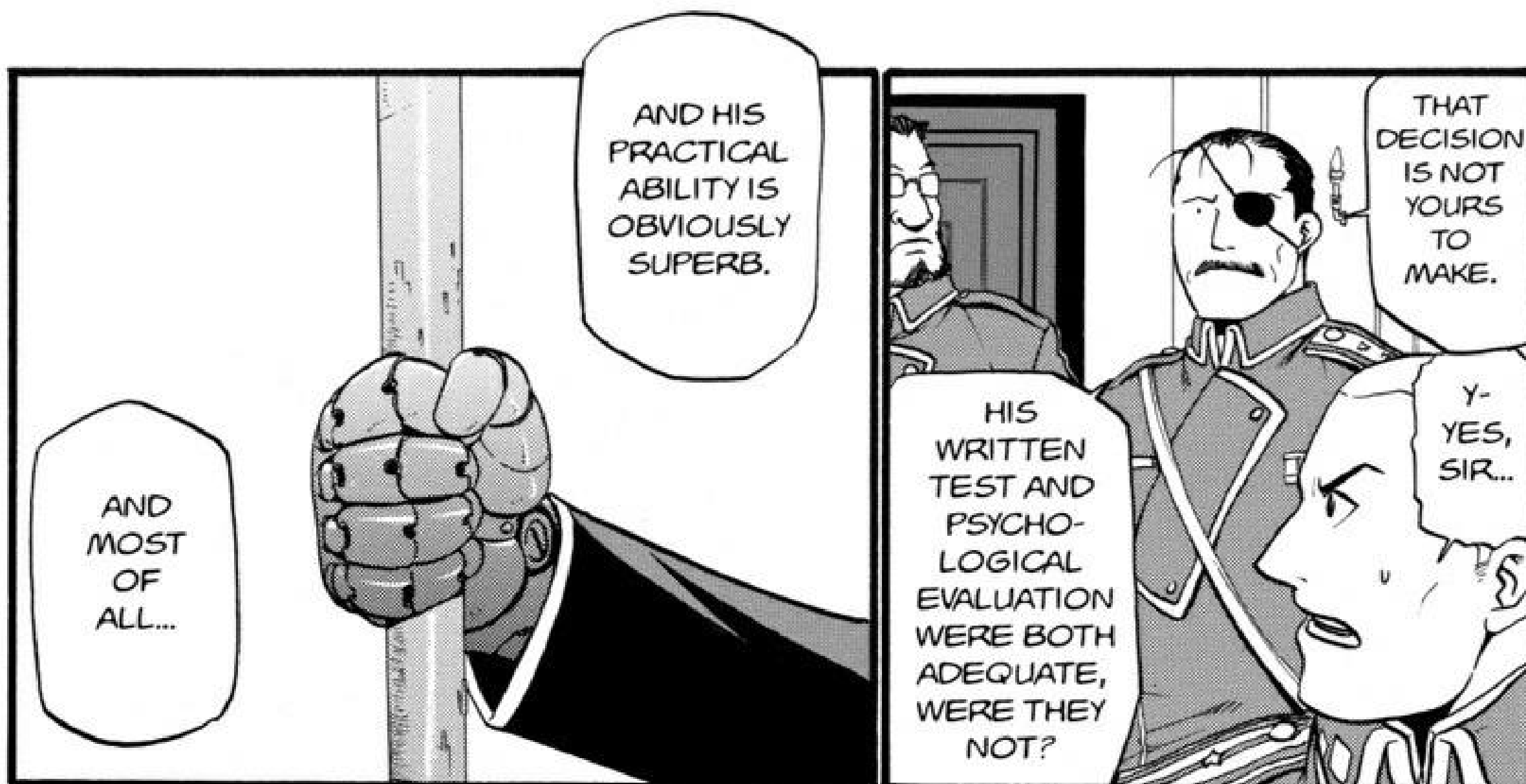


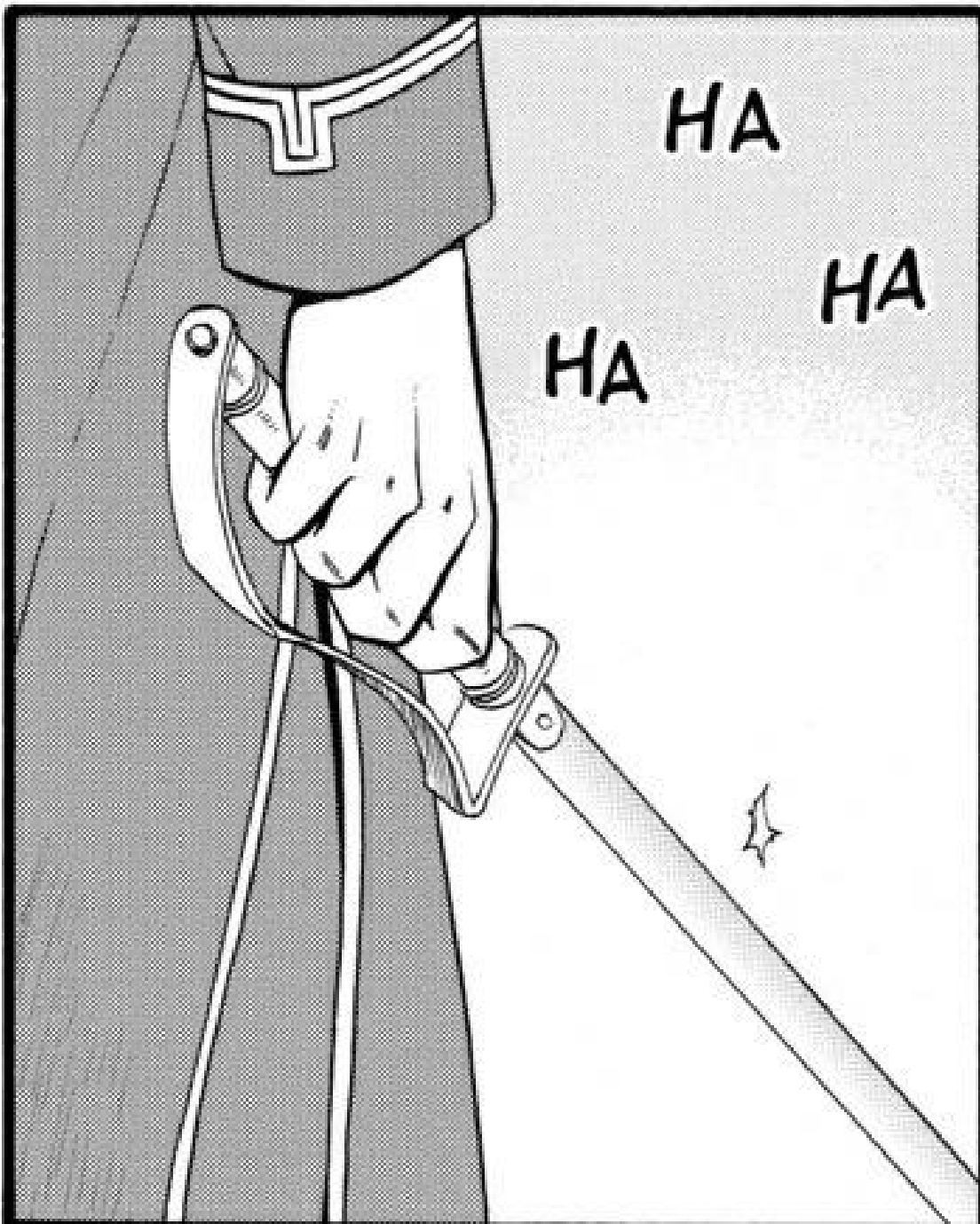
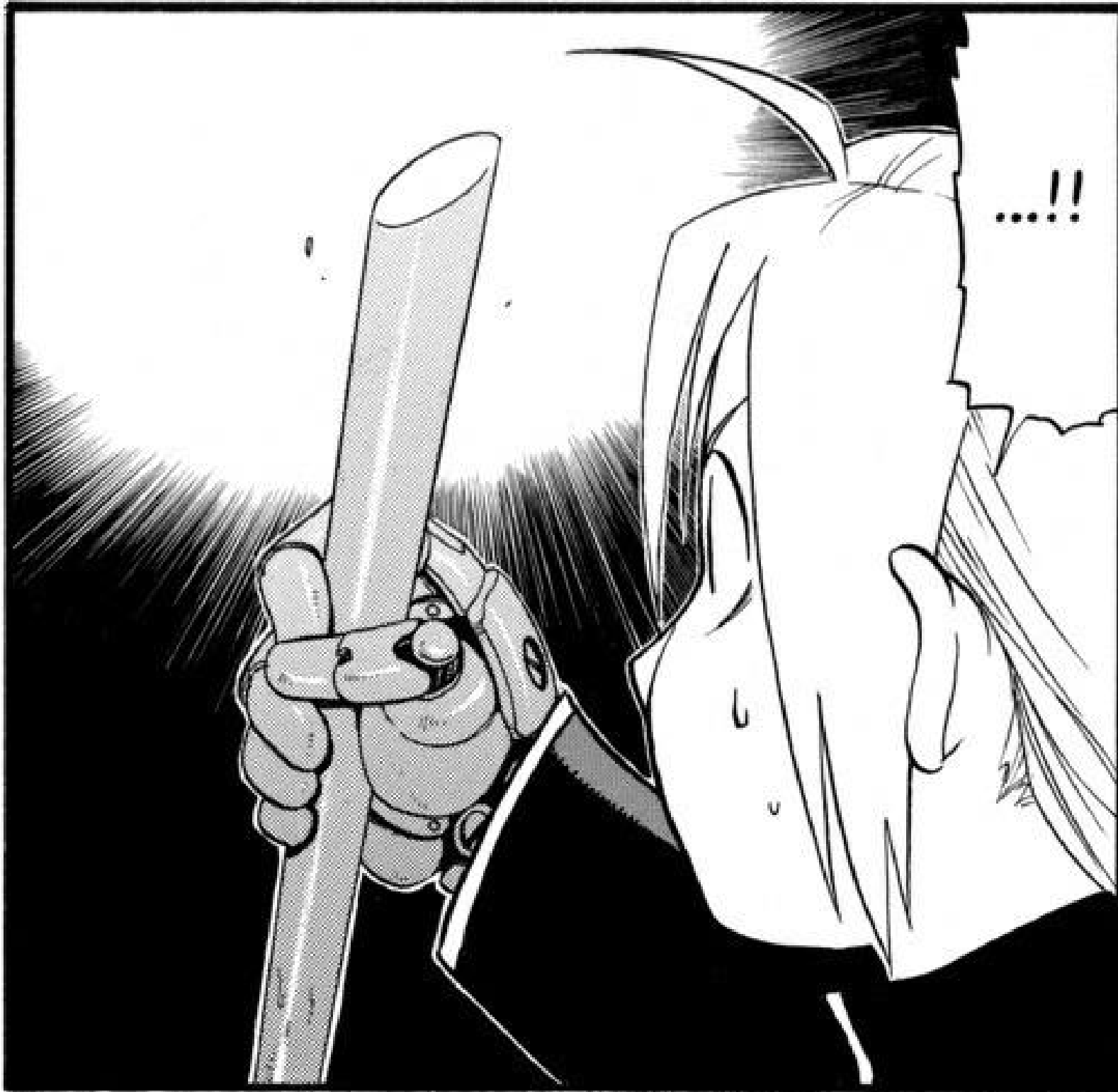


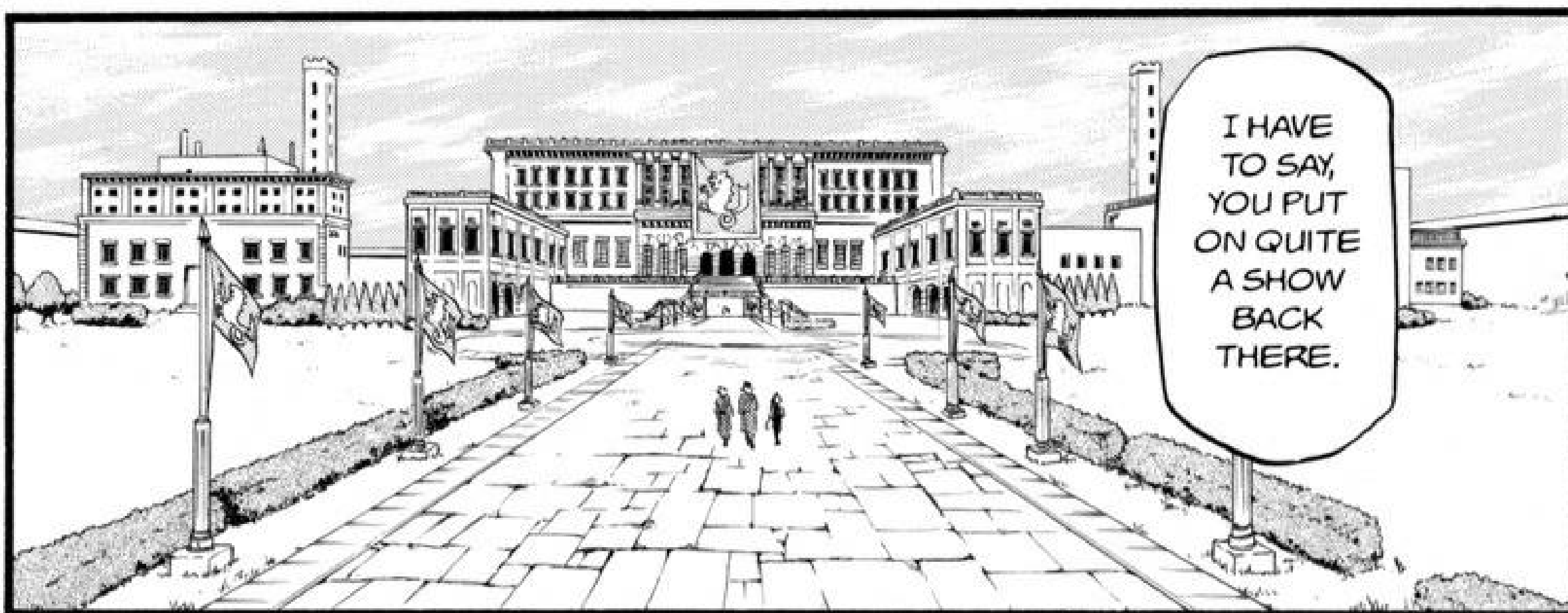
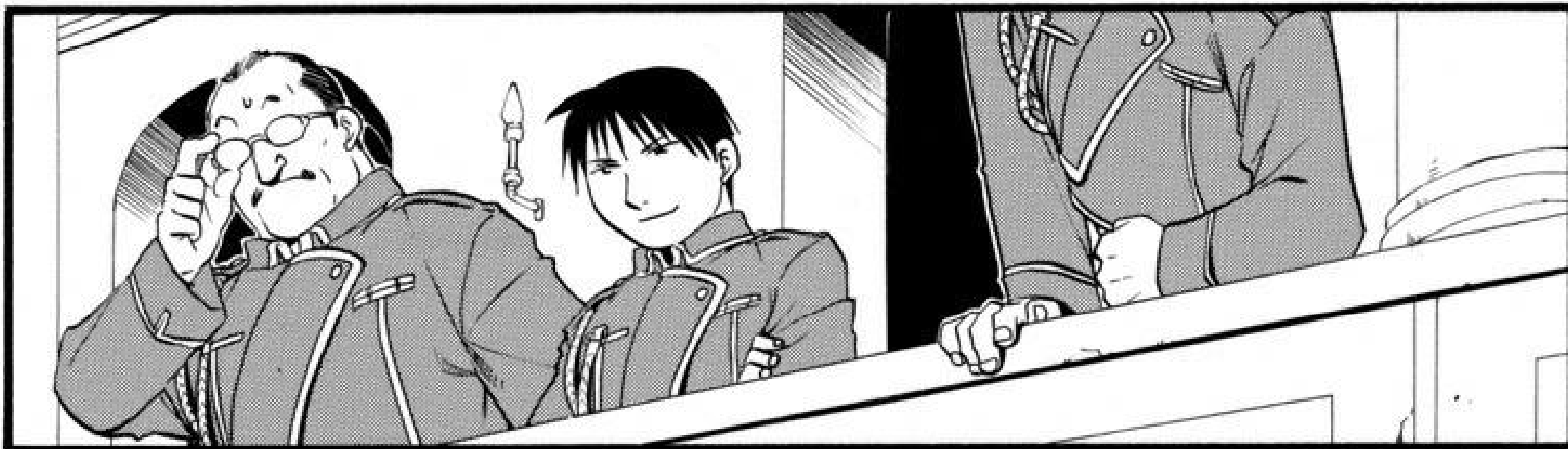








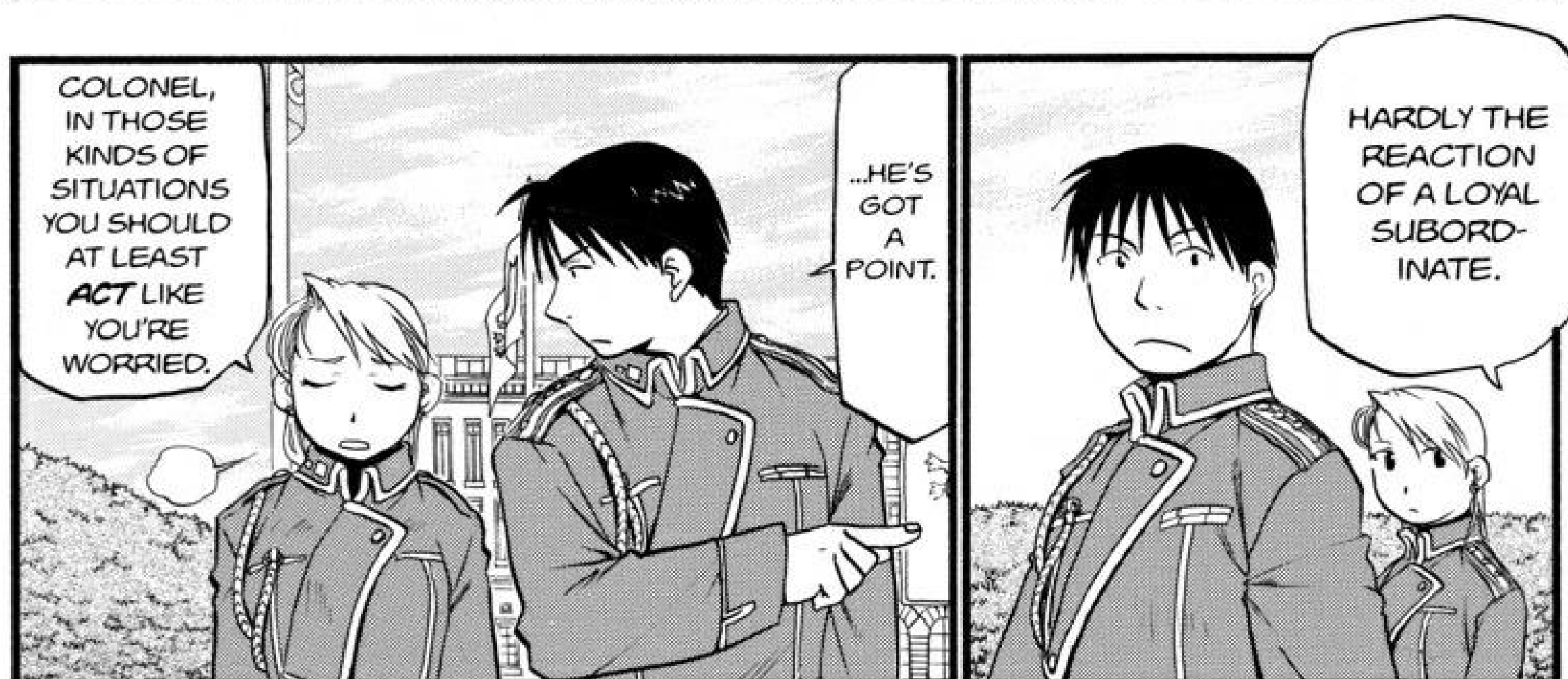






WHEN I
POINTED
MY
SPEAR
AT THAT
OLD
GUY...

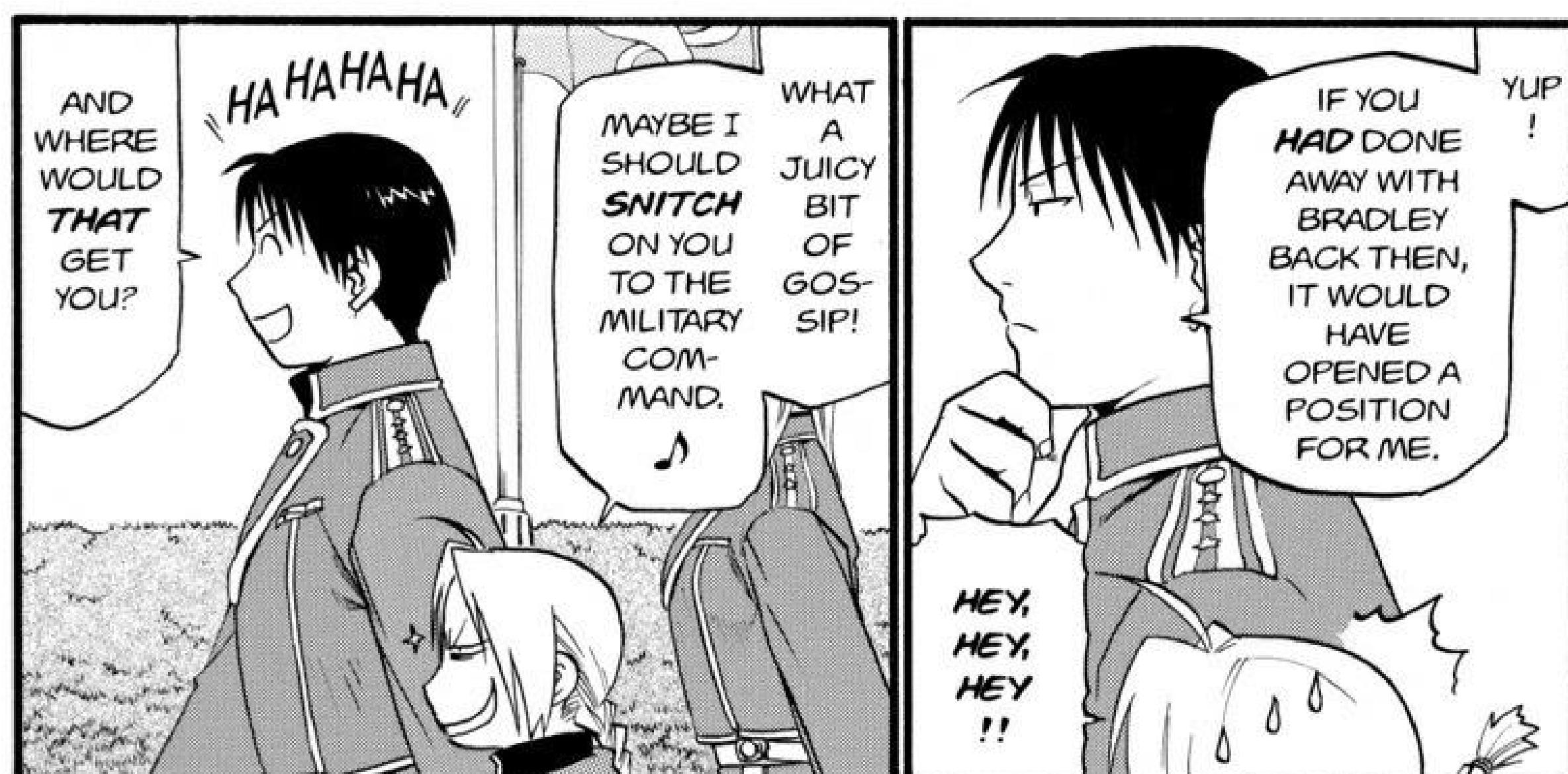
...YOU
WERE THE
ONLY ONE
THAT DIDN'T
SEEM
ALARMED,
COLONEL.



COLONEL,
IN THOSE
KINDS OF
SITUATIONS
YOU SHOULD
AT LEAST
ACT LIKE
YOU'RE
WORRIED.

...HE'S
GOT
A
POINT.

HARDLY THE
REACTION
OF A LOYAL
SUBORD-
INATE.



AND
WHERE
WOULD
THAT
GET
YOU?

HA HA HA HA

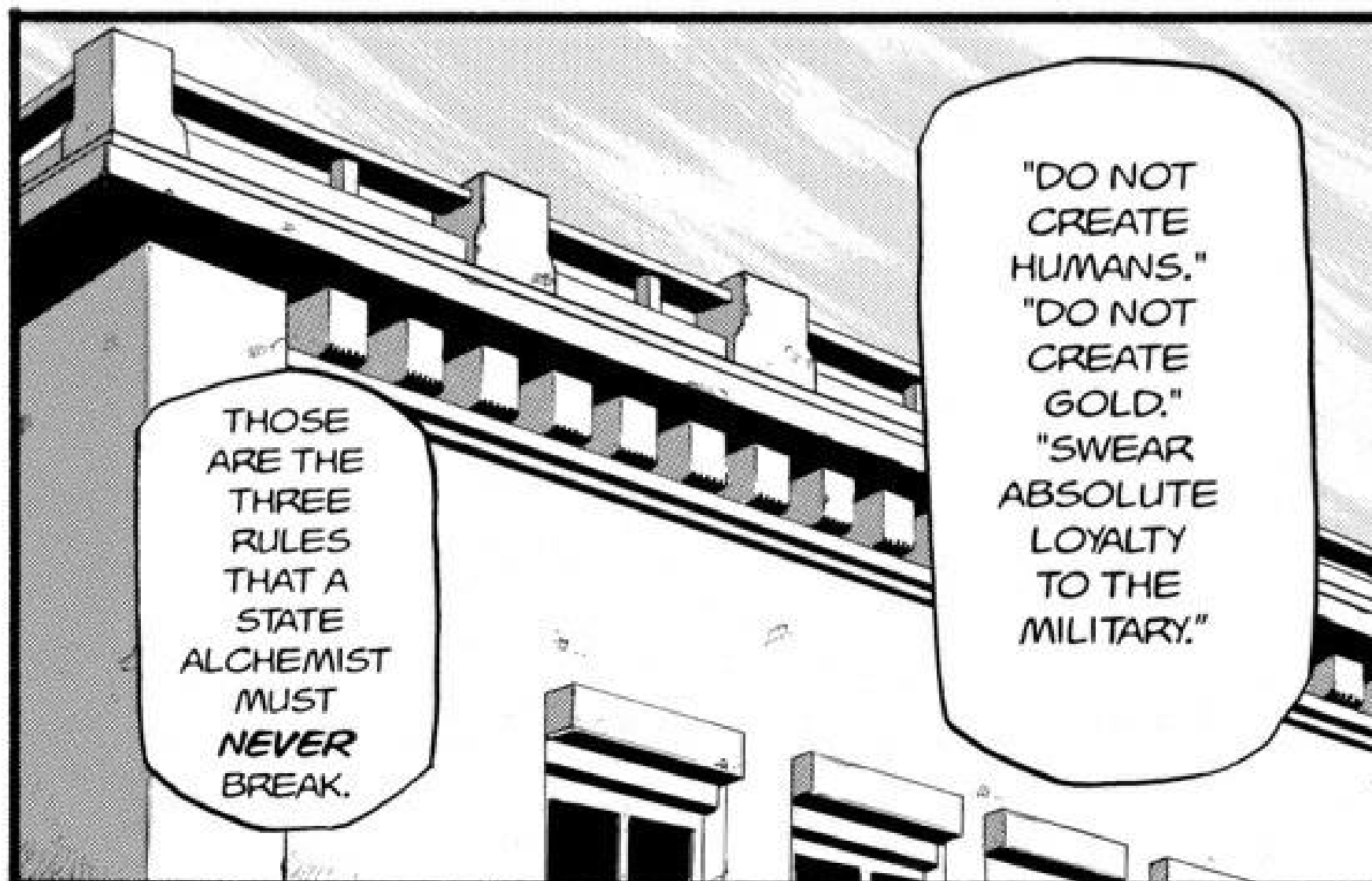
MAYBE I
SHOULD
SNITCH
ON YOU
TO THE
MILITARY
COM-
MAND.

WHAT
A JUICY
BIT OF
GOS-
SIP!

IF YOU
HAD DONE
AWAY WITH
BRADLEY
BACK THEN,
IT WOULD
HAVE
OPENED A
POSITION
FOR ME.

YUP
!

HEY,
HEY,
HEY
!!



"DO NOT
CREATE
HUMANS."
"DO NOT
CREATE
GOLD."
"SWEAR
ABSOLUTE
LOYALTY
TO THE
MILITARY."

I'VE
GOT
SOME
DIRT
OF MY
OWN.

HUH
?



EVEN THOUGH
THE PROCESS WAS
INCOMPLETE, YOU GUYS
DID TRY TO TRANS-
MUTE A HUMAN BEING.
IF THAT WERE TO
COME TO LIGHT, YOUR
CAREER WOULD BE
OVER BEFORE IT
STARTED.



AND MY OWN
STOCK WILL
RISE FOR
FINDING
SUCH A
TALENTED
ALCHEMIST.

YOU KEEP
YOUR PAST
A SECRET
AND
ACCEPT
THE
LICENSE
AS IF
NOTHING
HAPPENED.

CATCH
MY
DRIFT,
SQUIRT
?

AND YOUR
BROTHER
MIGHT EVEN
BE SENT TO
THE LAB FOR
STUDY.



ISN'T
HE
TOO
YOUNG
?

AGE
IS
IRREL-
EVANT.

THAT BOY
IS THE
MOST
TALENTED
RECRUIT
WE'VE
SEEN IN
YEARS.

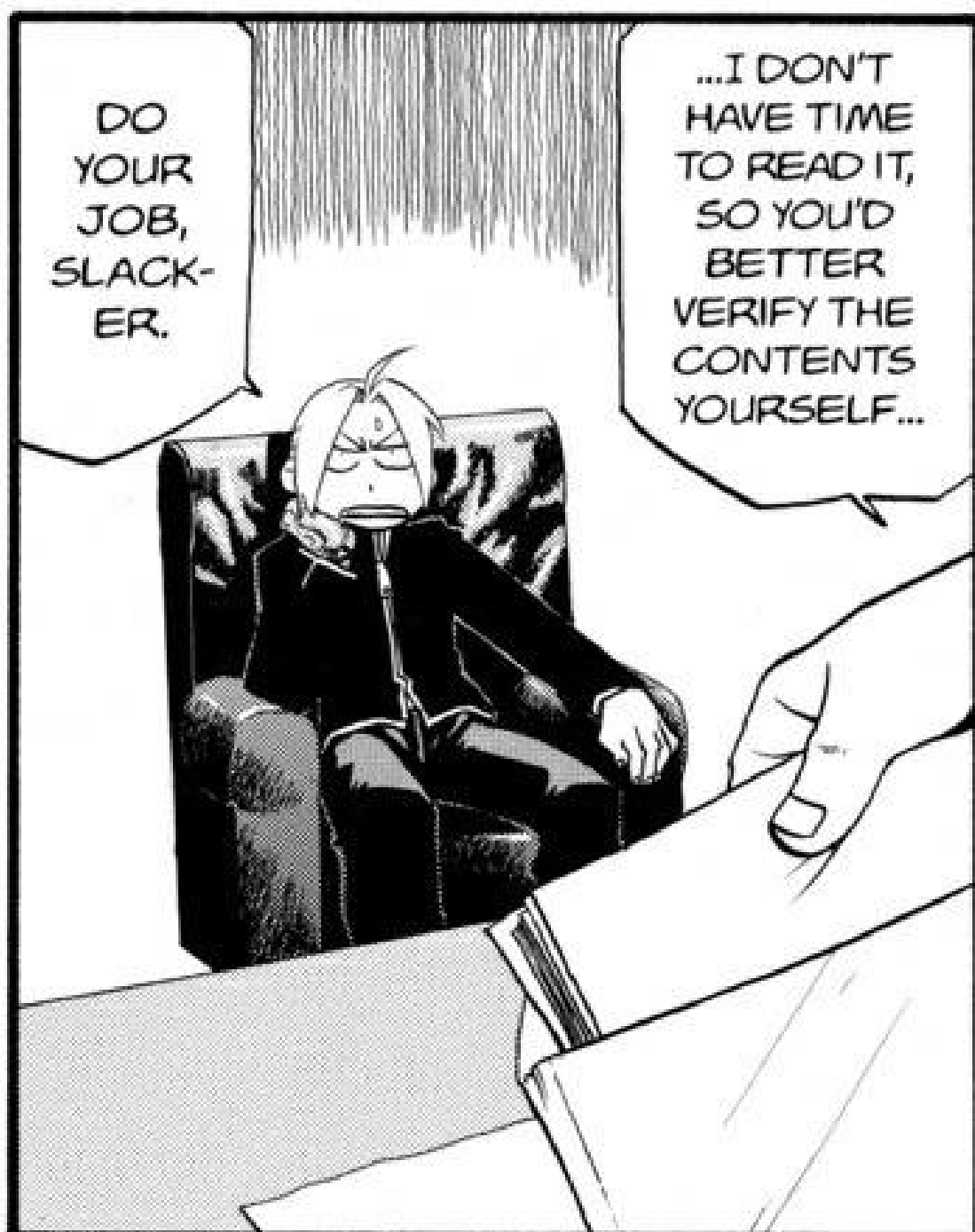




THIS GOLD WATCH IS THE BADGE THAT PROVES YOU'RE A STATE ALCHEMIST. GUARD IT WITH YOUR LIFE.



HERE IS YOUR CERTIFICATE AND SOME FORMS OR SOMETHING...



DO YOUR JOB, SLACKER.

...I DON'T HAVE TIME TO READ IT, SO YOU'D BETTER VERIFY THE CONTENTS YOURSELF...

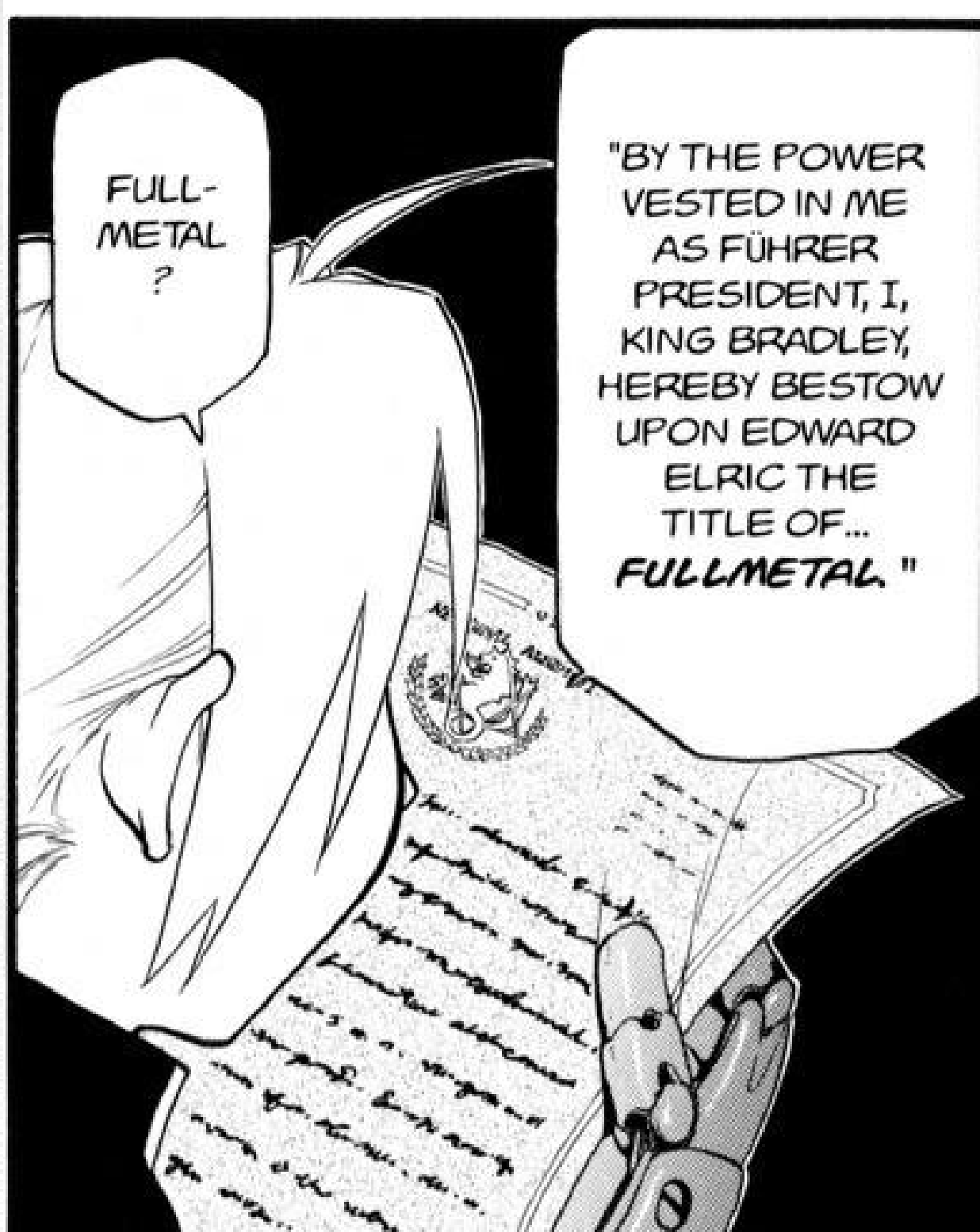
YES.

IT MAY SOUND A LITTLE IMPOSING FOR A 12-YEAR-OLD, BUT HE'LL GROW INTO IT WITH TIME.

BETTER TO CHAIN HIM TO THE MILITARY NOW BEFORE HE GETS INVOLVED WITH ANOTHER ORGANIZATION.

VERY WELL. IF THAT IS WHAT YOU WISH.

HAVE YOU DECIDED ON HIS SECOND NAME ?





KIND
OF A
MOUTHFUL,
HUH?

I'LL
TAKE
IT!

...THE
FULL-
METAL
ALCHEMIST
!



